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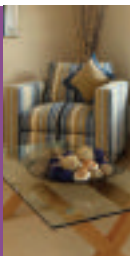
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THE NEWSPAPER FOR SITTINGBOURNE, ISLE OF SHEPPEY, FAVERSHAM & DISTRICT



Issue No 33
Available from Wednesday,
April 23, 2008

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WHERE 'X' MARKS THE SPOT

Sixteen wards across the borough will be contested in the May 1 local elections – and you can help decide who to vote for via our website – www.yourkenttv.co.uk. What's more, we'll bring you all the latest results after next Thursday's polls on our news site – www.yourswale.co.uk. And best of all, everything is free.

EXCLUSIVE

BY JAMES ALEXANDRE

VOTING for the local elections take place next Thursday – and we want to ensure a bumper turn-out to ensure everyone has their say on the local issues.

And to help you decide who you should vote for on May 1, we have given senior figures of the three main political parties the chance to talk directly to our readers.

In an exclusive service provided on our free, broadband TV channel – www.yourkenttv.co.uk – we have given each of the three main parties three minutes to explain why you should vote for them.

That's just 180 seconds of your time to ensure you get a sense of what your vote will be supporting and make sure your voice counts.

All you have to do is log-on, put 'Swale' in the search box and click on the three clips.

What's more, with the likes of the Faversham First party also contesting a number of wards, the competition is likely to be fierce as prospective councillors go head-to-head.

Sixteen wards across Swale are being fought.

We have spoken to Conservative council leader Andrew Bowles, Labour group leader Angela Harrison and Lib Dem candidate Mike Henderson.

They were given a strict brief – sell yourself and your policies to the floating voter in just three minutes.

And we hope by watching the clips you will be encouraged to not only vote – but engage in the key issues which affect everyone one of us across all of Swale.

Don't worry if you don't have access to our site – we've also got summaries of the key issues printed inside Yoursware. Just turn to page 2.

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TOP TV CLIPS



1 Take 3' heads to Dymchurch for a look at properties on offer. See the property channel @ Yourkenttv.co.uk



2 Love it or hate it the smart's city car has been revamped. See the motoring channel @ Yourkenttv.co.uk



3 Julie Maddocks goes to BBC's Cash in the Attic Roadshow in Walmer. See the leisure channel @ Yourkenttv.co.uk

SEE OUR SISTER PAPERS KENT ON SUNDAY AND THE SATURDAY EDITION FOR ALL THE WEEKEND'S COUNTY NEWS AND SPORT

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Polls countdown

James Alexandre talks to the three main parties in the May 1 elections - and watch them too on www.yourkenttv.co.uk

ANDREW BOWLES



CONSERVATIVE council leader Andrew Bowles is standing for re-election in Boughton and Courtenay. He is the chairman of regeneration group Swale Forward and also the county councillor for Swale East.

- Regeneration;** Eighty per cent of the money that Swale residents spend is currently leaving our economy. We want to capture some of that money and keep it within Swale so it's boosting the economy, while also providing jobs for residents.
- Adult skills;** We need to ensure our own population have the necessary skills and training to benefit from the Thames Gateway scheme.
- Housing;** Building massive estates of social rental housing is last century's solution. We need affordable, shared equity housing so that people can have a stake in the property they live in and see that stake grow and realise the net value to themselves and their family.
- Anti-social behaviour;** It's a major issue and we are working very closely with Swale police. We need to break this cycle. Regeneration will also help with families where children don't have the role model of a parent going to work.
- The environment;** We're trying to work with our partners in the Thames Gateway Green Grid to offer improved facilities for country parks and walks.

ANGELA HARRISON



THE leader of the council's Labour group Angela Harrison is standing for re-election in the Sheerness West ward. She is also a county councillor representing Sheerness.

- Regeneration;** What we don't want is a huge site the other side of the railway that completely kills the whole of the town, what we see is something that will bring it all together.
- Housing;** The council policy at the moment is to say that 25 per cent of new housing will be affordable housing, but the council has the power to make it 40 per cent.
- Adult skills;** A number of registered charities such as the Gateway Knowledge Alliance liaise with colleges and universities for skills training, and the Island Partnership are providing training for employers. We need to make sure they get the funding they need.
- Anti-social behaviour;** We now have PACTS, Police and Community Together, where partners work with each other and highlight the top priorities, such as deciding on where the mobile Hawkeye cameras go.
- The environment;** The Twin Bin system was not introduced properly and there were loads of problems in the first month. In Sheerness East, about 15 per cent do not have bins when they should have been delivered almost four weeks ago.

MIKE HENDERSON



MIKE Henderson is the Liberal Democrat candidate for Davington Priory, a ward he represented four years ago. He is the manager of a training and skills agency in Medway.

- Regeneration;** The focus is probably on Sittingbourne, where there are major potentials for expanding the town centre outwards effectively beyond the railway line.
- Adult skills;** What is needed is to get government funding out to individuals through employers. We clearly lost quite a lot of traditional industry from the area but I think there will continue to be a demand for industrial skills.
- Housing;** One of the key areas is housing for young people, especially those who have children. Most find it extraordinarily difficult to get on the housing ladder and the availability of housing to rent is not sufficient.
- Anti-social behaviour;** One of the key issues is a lack of facilities. We need to talk to young people and find out what they would like to see, which would discourage standing on street corners and causing problems.
- The environment;** We have some splendid heritage in Swale and we need to protect that, but also the built environment so that we are not creating the slums of the future.

CANDIDATE'S LIST

ABBEY

Martin John Bellis (Lib Dem)
Jenny Gurney (Fav First)
Trevor Raymond Payne (Lab)
Anita Jean Walker (Con)

BOUGHTON & COURTENAY

Andrew Harry Thomas Bowles (Con)
Fran Rehal (Lab)
Timothy Randell Valentine (Green)

CHALKWELL

Derek William Camell (Con)
David John Spurling (Lib Dem)
Ghlin Maurice Whelan (Lab)

DAVINGTON PRIORY

Brenda Joyce Chester (Lab)
Michael Scott Henderson (Lib Dem)
John Robert Winlow (Con)

EAST DOWNS

Colin Prescott (Con)
Catherine Read (Lab)
IWADE & LOWER HALSTOW

Dave Manning (Lib Dem)
Ben Stokes (Con)
Ruth Walker-Grice (Lab)

KEMSLEY

Susan Ann Gent (Con)
June Hammond (Lib Dem)
Martin James McCusker (Lab)

MILTON REGIS

Andrew Crayford (Ind)
Michael Rodger Dendor (Con)
Elvie Lowe (Lib Dem)
Sheikh Mihad (Monster)
Tony Winckless (Lab)

MINSTER CLIFFS

Mike Brown (Lib Dem)
Adrian Derwent Crowther (Con)
Libby Tucker (Lab)
Mad Mike Young (Monster)

MURSTON

David Banks (Lib Dem)
Patricia Rose Martin (Con)
Ken Rowles (Lab)

QUEENBOROUGH & HALFWAY

Jackie Constable (Lab)
Amanda Elliott (Shep First)
Paul Alistair Hayes (Con)

ROMAN

Mike Haywood (Lab)
Anne Doreen Jenkins (Lib Dem)
Mike Whiting (Con)

SHEPPEY CENTRAL

Andy Booth (Con)
David Sargent (Lab)
Paul Sturges (Shep First)

ST ANN'S

Mark Russell Baldock (Con)
Paul Durkin (Lab)
David John Evans (Lib Dem)
Findlay MacDonald (Fav First)

ST MICHAEL'S

Derek Thomas Conway (Con)
Brenda Ellen Hammond (Lib Dem)
Christine Ann Truelove (Lab)

WATLING

Philip Dangerfield (Lab)
Paul Martin Hurd (Lib Dem)
David Henry Seymour Simmons (Con)
Tracey Jane Smith (Fav First)

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Public should know council boss ruling

Findings must be told before local elections

BY SIMON ROBINSON

THE council's Labour group has called for the outcome of the long-running Swale chief executive dispute to be made public before next week's local elections.

Members of the Faversham and Swale East branch of the party voted unanimously in favour of requesting the findings against Mark Bilsborough, and the council's subsequent decision, are heard before the May 1 elections, citing the "interests of democracy".

Mr Bilsborough, who earns around £100,000 a year, has been on fully paid 'gardening leave' since December 2006, when allegations against him were made.

He had been in charge of the council for only 11 months.

A disciplinary hearing against him finally began in January, led by independent discrimination



FINAL OUTCOME: There are plans to release the decision over Mark Bilsborough (left) after next Thursday's elections

nation law specialist John Bowers QC.

His in-depth report of the case was submitted to Swale council earlier this month and was due to be discussed yesterday.

Labour's Faversham and Swale East branch chair Trevor Payne said: "It has been suggested that decisions made by the special meeting of the council held in camera on Tuesday might be kept secret until after the elections.

Fudge

"The result of the hearing and the decision by council should, in the interests of democracy, be announced as soon as possible after the meeting. And in any case before the elections next Thursday."

Derek Wyatt, Labour MP for Sittingbourne and Sheppey, said the entire matter had been "fudged" by the Tory-controlled council.

He said: "Of course it's not going to come out before the election. It's been a fudge, a political fudge."

Independent Swale councillor Chris Boden has called for a public inquiry once the final decision has been reached and all subsequent appeals heard.

But Swale council leader Andrew Bowles has said the council's findings would be released this morning.

He said: "It has always been the council's intention to make the report's findings and the council's decision available following the meeting."

"Mr Bilsborough has to be notified of any decision first but it's always been my intention for the council to issue a press release the following day."

• For the latest news on the council's decision visit www.yourswale.co.uk.

Teachers' strike to cause chaos

SCHOOLS across the borough are set for disruption tomorrow after teachers prepare for a one-day walk-out.

The strike, called by the National Union of Teachers is likely to cause major disruption across Kent, which boasts the largest regional NUT membership in the country.

Among those affected will be junior pupils at the Abbey School who have been told not to attend lessons on Thursday.

However, it will be business as usual for the Queen Elizabeth School.

Other schools were holding discussions with staff as Yourswale went to press to clarify what impact the strike would have.

Across the county, it is thought hundreds of schools will be forced to run on skeleton staffs for the day.

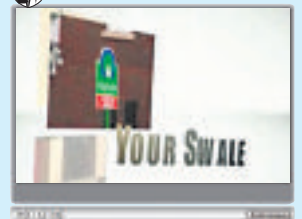
The NUT strike has been called in response to the Government's decision to increase teachers' pay by 2.45 per cent in September, below both inflation and average pay rises in the private sector, which are both above four per cent.

The acting NUT general secretary Christine Blower said: "It is essential to halt the downward spiral in teachers' pay."

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Your LOCAL TV ONLINE



Take a close-up look at the Swale property market on our website

Three women set upon by gang in park

POLICE have launched an appeal for information after an horrific unprovoked attack on three women in a public park.

The three terrified women were attacked by a gang of teenagers as they walked through Faversham Recreation Ground last week.

The women were assaulted as they made their way past what is described as a mob of 15 youngsters between 8-8.30pm last Thursday, April 17.

As they drew nearer some of the yobs split from the pack, lashing out at each of the women.

One of the victims, a 35-year-old, suffered bruises to her face, cheek, eye and leg during the unprovoked attack.

The other two women were also injured and all three left shaken up by the ordeal.

Now police are appealing for information to help track down the teenagers responsible and allay fears of a repeat attack.

Anyone who believes they may have witnessed the incident, or have information about the identity of those involved, should get in touch with PC Mark Silk at Sittingbourne police station on 01795 419336.

Guns, knives and ammo handed in to police scheme

BOXES of World War Two detonators, more than 100 deadly knives and swords and 36 guns have been handed in to Mid Kent police during a month-long weapons surrender scheme.

The haul of handguns included 10 real pistols, five air guns, 15 imitation weapons, three ball-bearing guns and three starter pistols.

During the four-week campaign Faversham police received 14 imitation firearms, an air gun, a real firearm, a starter pistol and one cache of ammo.

Across Kent, 47 real firearms were handed over to police, including 15 shotguns and a Beretta handgun, while 510 bladed instruments were given up.

Two sets of nunchucks and rocket flares joined the three crates of World War Two detonators in the list of stranger items to be surrendered.

Superintendent Peter Wedlake of the crime reduction department at Kent police, said: "We are very pleased with the response to the weapons surrender from people in Kent."

"We have seen many and varied weapons handed over to us during the campaign. The scheme was launched to reduce the number of weapons that could potentially be used in crime across the county."

"Weapons, whether they are real or imitation, cause fear and distress in the community and every weapon we have taken in is one that cannot now be used on the streets."

During the four-week campaign 16 samurai swords were handed in to police. It is now illegal to sell, make, hire or import these swords in England.

Those breaking the new legislation face a £5,000 fine and six months in jail.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Teacher taught tough lesson after smash

LANGUAGE teacher Simon Johnson hit the bottle when he couldn't persuade his girlfriend to stay in Canterbury.

As a result Johnson, 38, of Whitstable Road, Canterbury, was involved in a head-on collision on the A28 near Chartham which wrote off two cars.

He admitted drink driving at Canterbury Magistrates' Court.

Johnson was given a 12-month community order to include 100 hours unpaid work. He was banned from driving for 32 months and ordered to pay £50 costs.

Mother's funeral led to drunken behaviour

A DRUNK consumed by grief at his mother's death threatened to beat up a pair of policemen in Dane John Gardens, Canterbury, a court was told.

Richard Allum, 40, of Wincheap, admitted being drunk and disorderly at the city's magistrates court.

Officers had asked Allum to move on when he challenged them to a fight.

Lucy Welch, defending, said: "Mr Allum had been to his mother's funeral that day and was in an emotional state."

Allum was fined £50 and ordered to pay £50 costs plus £15 victim surcharge.

Finger fixed so guitar man plays at concert

GUITARIST Eurico Pereira will perform in Canterbury on Monday – five months after he had to pull out of a scheduled performance because of an injured finger.

The acclaimed musician, who last year won first prize at the London International Music competition, will perform at the Friends' Meeting House, starting at 7.30pm.

Tickets cost £10 from the Classical Longplayer in St Peter's Street. Call John Kemp on 01227 265503.

Freedom on buses travels around county

A STUDENT bus pass scheme trialled in Canterbury has been hailed such a success it is being extended.

Kent County Council's Kent Freedom Pass was trialled in the city, as well as Tunbridge Wells and Tonbridge, and was snapped up by more than 5,000 youngsters.

At £50 a year, it offers secondary pupils unlimited travel. It will be introduced in Dover, Shepway, Maidstone and Malling.



THE TANKS ROLL IN...

IT'S not often a full size tank is spotted cruising through the streets of Whitstable – but that's exactly what happened as a military spectacular came to town recently.

But don't worry if you missed watching the extravaganza – our multimedia reporter Rachel McAtthy was on hand to capture the highlights and has filed a special video report accessible via our free, broadband site www.yourkenttv.co.uk, capturing all the sights and sounds.

The event included a procession of vehicles from World War Two courtesy of the Invicta Military Preservation Society and focused on the role Whitstable played during the conflict.

In particular was an update on the Redsand Forts – part of the famous Maunsell Forts in the Thames Estuary – used as anti-aircraft batteries, bringing down 22 planes and 30 flying bombs on the town's beaches and surrounding countryside.

Watch the clip by logging on to our site and putting 'Whitstable' in the search box.

YOU CAN VIEW THIS ENTIRE CLIP @ yourkenttv.co.uk

Surprise new baby set to be park's next star

■ BY GARETH ARNOLD

SPRING has seen a number of new arrivals and Wingham Wildlife Park is no exception with one surprise baby who owes his survival to a keen-eyed keeper.

Milo the red-bellied lemur is just under a month old, and after a shaky start he is fit and healthy.

But Milo is lucky; abandoned by his mother soon after he was born, he was hidden by straw and would have died if he had not been spotted by keeper Tony Binskin.

His birth came as a complete surprise to the park.

Wingham spokesman Katie Wiggins said: "He was found by one of our keepers early in the morning.

The baby was very lucky that he was spotted as the mum must have tried to cover him up with straw and had left him to die.

"We rescued the baby and we are now hand-rearing him on baby formula milk. He is doing extremely well, and we think we are past the 'touch and go zone' as he is getting very healthy indeed."

Milo is gaining weight and eating lots, and the keepers are looking forward to introducing him to the other red-bellied lemurs, and the public, when he is a bit older.

For now he is cared for by Mr Binskin almost 24-hours-a-day, and will continue to be hand-reared until

he is about six months old.

Mrs Wiggins said: "We have named him Milo, which means the monkey, because of the way he looks, although lemurs are a different species."

"He is very, very sweet. We will be introducing him to the public, holding him in our hands on talks that we hold here."

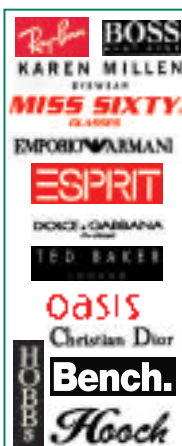
When Milo is older he will eat fruit, leaves, nectar and flowers.

Red-bellied lemurs are designated as vulnerable on the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List, because of the loss of their natural habitat through the resultant deforestation of slash-and-burn agriculture on Madagascar.



Picture: PHIL HOODSTON

Email yourswale@kosmedia.co.uk MILO: Thriving at the animal park



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So young and so vicious – locked up for 63 years



BY JENNA PUDELEK

TWO men and a teenager have been jailed for the murder of a father-of-three outside his home in Whitstable.

Mark Witherall was attacked at his home in King Edward Street after he disturbed burglars in January last year.

The three attackers knew Mr Witherall, 47, and were all from Whitstable.

The judge lifted reporting restrictions and named the 16-year-old defendant as Gerry Cusden, of Sydenham Street.

He was sentenced to 20 years in prison for murder and 30 months in a youth detention centre for conspiracy to burgle. The jail terms will run concurrently.

Mark Elliott, 21, unemployed of Sandpiper Road, was jailed for 23 years for murder and three-and-a-half years for conspiracy to burgle, to run concurrently.

Mr Witherall died in hospital in March 2007 after being on a life support machine for 41 days.

Unemployed Curtis Delima, 19, of Regent Street, faces 20 years in prison for murder and 30 months in youth detention for conspiracy to burgle, which will run concurrently.

The jury at Maidstone Crown Court returned unanimous guilty verdicts for the three after a nine-week trial, which ended on March 12 this year.

At sentencing on Friday the judge said the three used "shameful and cowardly" tactics during the trial – trying to pass the blame onto co-defendants.

Detective Inspector Ian Rogerson, the senior investigator in the case, said: "This was a shocking murder.

"It appears that people broke into Mark's



AFTERMATH: Mark Witherall of Whitstable was murdered by (top from left) Gerry Cusden, Curtis Delima and Mark Elliott who were all given long prison sentences

home, burgled it and viciously attacked him, leaving him seriously injured in the street.

"His family had to watch Mark die over a long period of time and this has left them devastated. I hope that now the court proceedings are over, they can begin to rebuild their lives."

Mr Witherall has left two daughters aged 30 and 10 and an eight-year-old son.

After the three were found guilty, his father, Mark, said: "I am devastated by the death of my son. He was a fantastic, nice man. He was well known in Whitstable and had lots of friends."

Try a drop of good local stuff says Vic

TV STAR Vic Reeves visited Canterbury's Asda store in Sturry Road last week to help spearhead a push to promote local produce sold in the supermarket.

As part of a major new push to see producers in the county have their goods available to a wider number of customers, the comedian and star of Shooting Stars brought a little glamour to the proceedings.

The local branch will feature one side of an aisle selling a selection of Kent goods chosen from a range of 300 locally-sourced products.



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NEWS IN BRIEF

Vandals strike village for second weekend in a row

A VANDALISM epidemic struck the Chartham area when cars in Shalmsford Street sustained hundreds of pounds worth of damage.

Car paintwork was scratched either late on Friday, April 11, or in the early hours of Saturday, April 12.

It was the second weekend of criminal damage. In the early hours of the previous Sunday, stones were thrown at houses in the same street, near the junction with Pomfret Road, and a window was smashed.

Fifteen minutes later tyres were slashed on four cars in River Court, also in Chartham.

Police community support officer Paul Rigden said: "The fencing around the derelict buildings at the former St Augustine's Hospital site in Chandlers Way, Chartham, has also been damaged recently."

Police urge anyone who witnesses vandalism to ring 999. Anyone with information about those causing the damage should contact Mr Rigden on 07772 226034.

Take all stray dogs to council remind police

STRAY dogs are no longer a police responsibility and should not be taken to police stations, officers are reminding the public.

Since legislation which came into force on Sunday, April 6, the police have no duty to accept dogs while kennels have been removed from all stations.

Anyone who finds a stray dog should contact Canterbury council on 01227 862491 from 8.30am to 4pm Monday to Friday. Outside office hours residents are advised to contact the Lord Whisky Animal Sanctuary on 01303 862622 for advice.

Consultation begins over Marlowe plans

PUBLIC consultation has begun over plans to build a new Marlowe Theatre in Canterbury.

The applications to demolish the old theatre and to build a new one in its place were formally submitted to Canterbury council earlier this month.

The modern theatre will have a new main auditorium with 1,200 seats, which is a 20 per cent increase of current capacity. It will also house a second performance space with 150 seats.

The application can be viewed at council offices or on the council website at www.canterbury.gov.uk/planningapplications.



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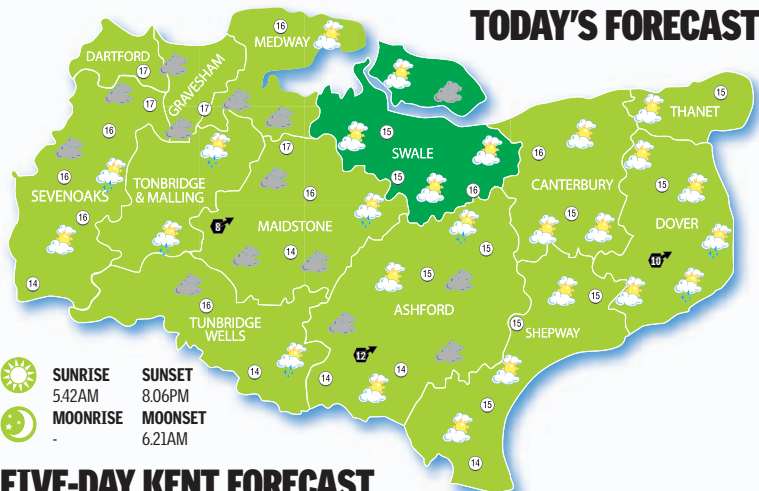
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NEWS IN BRIEF



WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

Chatham	Saturday	3:47pm	5.7m
	Sunday	4:18pm	5.5m
Dover	Saturday	2:05pm	6.1m
	Sunday	2:34pm	6.0m
Dungeness	Saturday	2:08pm	7.1m
	Sunday	2:40pm	6.9m
Ramsgate	Saturday	2:35pm	4.7m
	Sunday	3:04pm	4.5m
Sheerness	Saturday	3:37pm	5.4m
	Sunday	4:08pm	5.3m
Whitstable	Saturday	3:43pm	4.9m
	Sunday	4:10pm	4.9m

AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	16°C	Madrid	15°C
Athens	22°C	New York	12°C
Barcelona	21°C	Paris	14°C
Beijing	13°C	Rome	16°C
Bombay	33°C	Sydney	18°C
Cape Town	22°C	Tenerife	20°C
Cardiff	10°C	Tokyo	18°C
Gibraltar	18°C	Vancouver	7°C
Hong Kong	28°C	Warsaw	14°C
Las Palmas	21°C	Wellington	14°C

FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon		Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Ashford	15°C	16°C	17°C	17°C	18°C	Gravesend	16°C	16°C	17°C	17°C	19°C
Canterbury	13°C	15°C	16°C	15°C	17°C	Maidstone	16°C	16°C	17°C	17°C	19°C
Chatham	13°C	15°C	15°C	16°C	17°C	Ramsgate	13°C	15°C	16°C	15°C	17°C
Dartford	16°C	16°C	17°C	17°C	19°C	Rochester	13°C	15°C	15°C	16°C	17°C
Dover	12°C	13°C	13°C	13°C	13°C	Sevenoaks	15°C	14°C	15°C	16°C	17°C
Faversham	13°C	15°C	15°C	16°C	17°C	Sittingbourne	13°C	15°C	15°C	16°C	17°C
Folkestone	12°C	13°C	13°C	13°C	13°C	Tonbridge	16°C	15°C	17°C	17°C	18°C
Gillingham	13°C	15°C	15°C	16°C	17°C	Tun Wells	16°C	15°C	17°C	17°C	18°C

Children's hospice to hold fundraising birthday prize draw

CHILDREN'S hospice Demelza is celebrating its tenth anniversary in September – and to mark the occasion it is staging a special draw. Top prize is £3,000, second prize £1,500 with the third prize £1,000 of Thomas Cook holiday vouchers.

The draw – with tickets costing £1 each – will help the funding for the Sittingbourne-based hospice and a new one being built in Eltham.

Lottery manager Paul Booth said: "As well as being in with a chance of winning one of these fantastic prizes, on each ticket there are three tick boxes, each relating to a special treat or gift for one of our children and their family."

"Each person who purchases a ticket will be able to tick their favourite choice, and the winner of the top prize will therefore determine the prize for the family."

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QUESTION & ANSWER

NICHOLAS HAMPSHIRE



Q What is your role in the local community?

A In May 2007 I was elected as Borden's new Conservative councillor at the age of just 22 years. I have lived in Swale all my life and attended Tunstall Primary School and Borden Grammar School. In 2006 I graduated from King's College London with a 2.1 Geography BA (Hons) degree. For the past 18 months I have been studying towards the ACA chartered accountancy qualification whilst working as an audit semi-senior with UHY Hacker Young LLP.

Q How did you get involved in local politics?

A I have always been very interested in politics because I believe the decisions our democratically-elected representatives make can have a huge impact on people's lives. Having joined the Conservative Party in 2001, I have helped various candidates from across Kent with general or local election campaigns. Running for local council, therefore, seemed a natural progression.

Q What is your role on the council?

A I see my role as a councillor as campaigning in the best interests of Borden's residents; lobbying the council and other organisations to take action, wherever possible, to meet people's needs and aspirations. The additional challenges of increasing environmental awareness and developing a stronger financial system come with being a member of the envi-

ronment and sustainability scrutiny panel and audit committee.

Q Do you believe there is enough political participation in Swale?

A I think individuals, in general, are interested in politics. Everyone I come across has an opinion on local and national issues, such as Swale's twin bin system and the war in Iraq for example. The question is, therefore, not whether people are interested in politics, but instead how you build greater respect for the system and make politics appear more relevant to the electorate. Only then will more people vote and active participation increase amongst all sectors of society. I believe honesty and objectivity in approach may be a good place to start.

Q What priorities and ambitions do you have for your particular ward for the future?

A My main priority for Borden continues to be that of lobbying in the best interests of the community. Most weeks I am approached by residents about concerns they may have regarding issues that affect their day-to-day quality of life. On each occasion I have tried to resolve these, the best I can, with the help of members from Borden parish council, Swale council and Kent County Council. Locally, highway issues feature prominently as people's main concerns. Taking continued action to improve the condition of the village's roads and address the problem of 'rat-running' are likely to be key areas of focus for the ward.

Q What do you hope the council as a whole can achieve this year?

A This year I hope the council will continue to take a more strategic approach to its work and achieve an even more financially sustainable position. As our auditors have already commented on, progress in these areas is already being made but there is still more to do.

Q Do you believe that the powers and workings of the council could be improved?

A Like any organisation, there is always room for improvement. What is important is if an organisation is actively looking at ways it can surpass its own goals. Members who are united in their aims and sympathetic to the concerns of others also helps. The latter may not always be apparent from all meetings, but when moments of compromise do occur, the outcome can be very productive.

Q What would you say has been your greatest contribution since becoming a councillor?

A I believe my greatest contribution is my objective approach to residents' concerns and the ability to form good working relationships with members from different organisations and political parties. At times it can be quite frustrating when you are unable to do more to help but it can be very rewarding when you see something that has not been attended to, being resolved because of your intervention.

Q & A

Ahead of the May 1 local elections, Nicholas Hampshire, Borden's Conservative councillor and aged just 23, discusses what motivated him to get involved in local politics after university to **James Alexandre**



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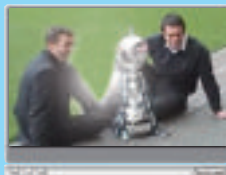
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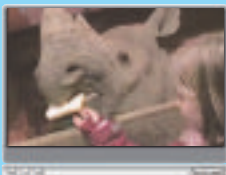
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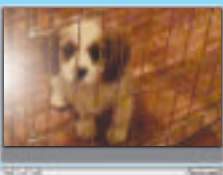
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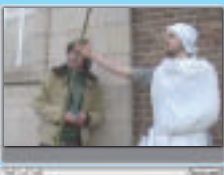
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EDITOR'S CHOICE

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Crowds lifted me as rain dampened hopes

Our very own sports reporter DAVID PRITCHARD proved he has what it takes in one of the world's most gruelling sport events – the Flora London Marathon. Having had a chance to catch his breath, he explains what it was like.

IT'S not often you find yourself between Gordon Ramsay and Ronan Keating, but that's precisely what happened on The Mall ten days ago.

Measuring your athletic abilities against celebrities is one of the many little bonuses which come with taking part in the London Marathon.

The three of us were among just over 34,000 to finish in what was not only the third largest in the race's history, but also the longest.

It was a touch ironic that on the occasion the race organisers had chosen to mark the centenary of the first running of the modern marathon distance, an emergency added 200 metres to the route.

Unbeknown to us competitors, as we set off in Greenwich Park the fire

brigade were being called to a suspected gas leak 13 miles further down the course.

As a result some of the field ended up running slightly more than the 26 miles 385 yards which was first covered in the 1908 London Olympics.

In previous competitions the distance had varied by over a mile and the original course from Windsor to the Olympic Stadium was 25 miles, plus a lap of the White City athletics track.

But in a last minute change of plan the start was moved back up to Windsor Castle to allow the royal family to watch, adding a mile to the total.

The race entered sporting folklore not because of the change in distance, but due to its heart-wrenching finish. Italian Dorando Pietri entered the arena on his own but on the verge of total exhaustion. Collapsing several times he was helped to his feet by stew-



ACTION: Among the 34,000 to finish the London Marathon was our reporter David Pritchard who is already keen to sign up for next year's race

ards, which meant that as he crossed the line he was disqualified for receiving outside assistance.

Fortunately my experience was a little easier than Signor Pietri's, but running a marathon can still have its pitfalls. Of the massed ranks on the start line, around one in nine needed medical assistance of some kind during the race while 40 runners ended up in hospital despite relatively benign conditions.

The marathon tests mental strength as much as physical and my mind and body began to fall out with each other at around 15 miles.

It had all been going so well up to that point, but the combination of a rain shower and a rare quiet section saw the onset of the first of several difficult patches.

When things start to go wrong, the spectators take on a starring role.

In the most popular sections

around Canary Wharf and the Embankment they manage to create an atmosphere which numbs the pain and replenishes flagging energy levels. They also bring all kinds of sweets to give strugglers a sugar boost, which is a wonderful idea and certainly helped propel me onwards to the finish.

Running a marathon requires months of lonely training, pushes you to uncharted levels of exhaustion and for days you walk

around like an old lady.

But somehow it's all worth it and within hours I found myself thinking about doing it all over again. And next time I'm beating Ramsay.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Modest David was raising money for Cardiac Risk in the Young (CRY) and raised £1,500.

He completed the race in an impressive three hours, 57 minutes, 44 seconds – comfortably beating TV action man Ben Fogle by seven minutes... not to mention around 23,000 of the 34,000 other runners.



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Day trippers up to 39m – economy and jobs boost



MAJOR ATTRACTION: Leeds Castle is one of the sites that is boosting Kent's tourist economy with visitor numbers and spend up in new figures just released for 2006

TOURISM in Kent has seen a sharp rise in the number of visitors exploring local attractions and spending their cash in restaurants, stores, bars and cafes.

New figures show that during 2006 the county's economy benefited by £2.5 billion, an increase of 13.5 per cent on 2003.

Attractions such as Canterbury Cathedral, Leeds, Rochester and Dover castles, and Port Lympne and Howletts wildlife parks, all contributed to the boom.

Seven per cent of jobs are now supported by the travel industry – whether through day trippers or people taking a longer break. This is an increase of 2.2 per cent.

The figures were substantially up on those for 2003, which Visit Kent – a tourism group

■ **BY NICK AMES**

run by Kent County Council – used as a comparison.

According to the calculations more than 39 million day trippers arrived two years ago, and they spent more than £1.3 billion, a rise of 19.7 per cent. Just under that sum was spent by longer term tourists from the UK and visitors from overseas.

In all 84 per cent of visitors came from the UK with the rest mainly from continental Europe, the USA and Japan.

Fran Warrington, head of Visit Kent, said: "Tourism is a fragile and competitive industry and across the UK it has taken a long time to recover from the foot and mouth epidemic.

"But these figures show just how well we have been doing in maintaining and develop-

ing our position as a top UK destination.

"In part, these results are a reflection of the tremendous investment that has been made in our industry since 2003.

"When the research was carried out in 2006 more than £148.5 million was being invested in Kent in tourism-related developments.

"Major projects ranged from the £90 million second Swale Crossing improving access to the seaside resorts and heritage attractions on the Isle of Sheppey, to the new £37 million ferry berths and ships serving the Port of Dover."

KCC regeneration chief Roger Gough said the county faced the challenges of cheap air fares and city breaks in Europe but he said Kent had a bright future in the industry.

Mr Gough said: "This study confirms that our tourism, leisure and hospitality businesses are rising to both the short and long term challenges in their marketplace."

Death of mother prompts action



HOSPITAL trusts must not get complacent in the fight against superbugs, a campaigner has warned.

Laura Probert joined the National Concern for Healthcare Infections (NCHI), which works to raise awareness of superbugs and other infections, after her mother died at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford three years ago.

She said: "She was in there because she fell and broke her hip, she was not ill.

"They operated and she got an MRSA infection in the wound. She was in hospital for three months and developed Clostridium difficile and e-coli – she just gave up in the end."

Since the loss of her 82-year-old mother, Mrs Probert, who lives in Ramsgate, has been working on behalf of the NCHI and plans to join LINK, the Local Involvement Network that will replace Patient and Public Involvement Forums.

"We were not told anything," she said. "It was such a battle to get information, but it has picked up now and they are taking it more seriously."

Despite infection rates of MRSA and C diff decreasing in hospitals across the county, Mrs Probert is concerned that trusts could get complacent and return to bad practice.

KOS Media has been running a campaign to help doctors, nurses and other healthcare professionals battle against superbugs.

The award-winning publishers have been raising awareness that simply washing your hands at home and work using soap and water and the alcohol hand washing gel provided in hospitals is the simplest way to stop infection spreading.

Mrs Probert is speaking at the Westminster Health Forum next month about monitoring hand hygiene procedures and welcomed KOS Media's campaign.

For more information visit www.nc-hi.com.

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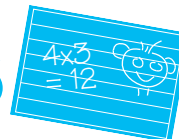
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BREAK TIME



SURREAL: Poet and song writer, John Hegley

Writer inspires primary pupils

EDINBURGH Festival regular John Hegley brought his off-the-wall vision to Borden Primary School this month.

The surreal poet and song writer, who has performed at several comedy festivals in America, led pupils in several workshops using poetry, song, writing and drawing to fire their creativity, and get them looking at the world in a slightly different way.

The visit was part of World Book Day, one of a series of visits by writers and poets enjoyed by the school.

Showing off talent

TALENTED pupils from across Swale took part in a talent show at Sittingbourne Community College – with twenty acts battling it out for the star prize.

The show encompassed everything from live bands and singer/song writers, to dancers and circus performers.

Overall winner was SCC dancer Lauren Grady, who impressed the judges with her well-choreographed routine.

But other schools also triumphed with an honourable mention going to Fulston Manor singer Zoe Honour and junior Chyna Jacobs, from Lansdowne School.

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Hazel's no Weakest Link on TV quiz show

■ BY GARETH ARNOLD

FAMED for her cutting remarks, icy Anne Robinson failed to faze Canterbury College student advisor Hazel Stokes when she recently appeared on the Weakest Link.

The serial quiz show contestant had dreamed of getting on the show, and was not disappointed after hours on the phone finally paid off.

She said: "I have watched the show ever since it first started and I have always wanted to be on it. I have applied several times and this time I finally made it."

She got a call in January inviting her to be on the show and in February she went up to London and spent the day in the TV studios with the ice queen of game shows, Anne Robinson.

But despite her fearsome reputation, Robinson did not shake up Mrs Stokes, who cannot reveal the result of the show until it is broadcast.

She said: "It was a really great experience. I have met many stars over the years and been on TV before and although we did not get to meet Anne one-on-one, when she came on she knew lots about us and even asked me about Canterbury College. She was a really nice lady."

"I was nervous while I waited to go on, but that went away when the questions started as I needed to focus."

"I found the questions quite easy, but I was lucky as most of them were questions that I knew the answer to. There were a few that I got wrong, I think there was one about the Incas and one about cough medicine, but you'll have to wait and see how I did in the show."



UNFAZED: College advisor Hazel Stokes has met many celebrities including, most recently, Stephen Mullhern

Mrs Stokes is no stranger to the limelight or to meeting celebrities. Over the past ten years she has also appeared on Wheel of Fortune, The People Versus and Sale of The Century.

Mrs Stokes is not just an avid TV contestant; she has also worked part-time at the Marlowe Theatre for nearly twenty years and has collected over 300 pictures of herself with countless celebrities. One of her earliest photographs was taken with Adam Faith and one of

her more recent additions was with TV host and pantomime star Stephen Mullhern.

In 2006, Stephen Bull a writer and lecturer at Portsmouth University published a collection of Hazel's photographs in a book entitled 'Meeting Hazel Stokes' and Canterbury College has a copy in the Student Information Centre.

The show will be screened on BBC1 at 5.15pm on Thursday, April 24.

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Each week we get a mystery writer to air their views on living in Swale...

Why I'm bracing myself for the birthday blues

BIRTHDAYS are funny old things. When you're young you crave them coming around on the calendar with the enthusiasm normally only reserved for Christmas.

In fact they are better. You don't have to share the limelight. It's your cake (none of this ludicrous buying cakes for everyone else in the office business, which I still struggle to understand), and, let's not beat about the bush here, your presents.

Yup, from the age of one to about 21, birthdays are glorious affairs.

Yet, from that moment onwards, they take on a more sinister tone. Because while getting older and gaining responsibility comes with each birthday until that undisputed move into adulthood, it obscures the passing of time and the realisation you're not getting any younger.

Granted, when I hear people turning 23 or 24 moaning about getting old, I tend to splutter and start banging on about how actually

that is still really young and what in God's name are they doing complaining? Which, I fully appreciate, then makes me sound as old as some rather ancient hills, and clarifies the fact I have chugged up a generation.

But then I'm much older than that. And I know when I turned 23 I felt I was already on the slippery slope towards the big 3-0... which then seemed like the start of middle age.

Now, of course, having cleared the 30 hurdle some time ago, it seems far more like the little 3-0... a glorious era of youth and vitality. Now it's headlong towards the truly titanic 4-0... which is practically a pensionable age isn't it?

And I know the year ahead will be full of things to remind me I'm no longer part of the 'young' set - which in my brain I still am. Any gigs I attend will inevitably be reformed bands from the Eighties or Nineties, or singers who have long since fallen off young people's radars. I will join the other 30-somethings, all unable to hold their drink, trying to recapture their youth for 90 minutes, and making futile efforts to conceal rapidly expanding waistlines

and double chins which would could be carved off and turned into a new born baby.

As you may have gathered, there is a certain significant date looming on the calendar this month - a birthday which transports me fair and squarely into my mid-thirties. Yet I have done what I always do and started assuming I am that age from about Christmas. That gives me a good four months to get used to the increase in my age, and makes the switch on the big day itself not quite so painful.

But while applying this logic, it means I only get to spend three quarters of the year thinking of myself as the age I actually am. Which means I am wishing my life away, in a desperate attempt to soften the blow of the passing of the years. Which is odd. And it makes me draw the inevitable conclusion that as the years pass I'm losing more of those precious brain cells - and I started with not my fair share in the first place.

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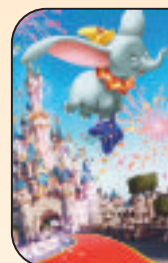


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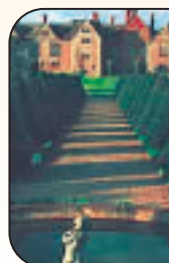
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WIN Tickets to see Here & Now at Wembley Arena on May 16

FOLLOWING the success of over 15 outdoor Here & Now shows last summer, Tony Denton Promotions are proud to announce the seventh Here & Now arena tour for May, featuring the cream of 80s artists playing just their biggest hits.

The line up is as follows:

- **RICK ASTLEY:** From the famous Stock, Aitken & Waterman stable, where he was discovered as a tea boy, Rick went on to have many hits that included his number one single, Never Gonna Give You Up (which was also the best-selling single of 1987 and won a Brit Award for Best Single the following year).

- **BANANARAMA:** The girl band of the 80s and one of the most successful girl bands of all time – this sassy duo, which comprises of original members Sara Dallin and Keren Woodward, take to the stage for their first Here & Now tour.

- **ABC:** Featuring the iconic Martin Fry, ABC were one of the bands that defined the decade. With his gold lame suit and suave looks, ABC made an impact on our hearts as well as the charts.

- **PAUL YOUNG:** Most recently seen on ITV1s Hell's Kitchen, Paul has a genuine soul voice and hits that have spanned the decades. This former singer with the Q-Tips returns for this tour



PAUL YOUNG



BANANARAMA



RICK ASTLEY

after appearing on the first one in 2001 to great critical acclaim. Paul will sing a selection of his hits from Wherever I Lay My Hat, Love Of The Common People, Come Back & Stay, to Everything Must Change.

- **CURIOSITY KILLED THE CAT:** Ben Volpeliere-Pierrot graced the covers of every pop magazine in the country during the late 80s.

- **JOHNNY HATES JAZZ:** Formed in 1987, this good-looking trio were true pop stars, winning the hearts of many teenage girls.

- **CUTTING CREW:** This Grammy nominated band fronted by the enigmatic Nick Van Ede are best known for their classic songs (I Just) Died In Your Arms (No1 in 17 countries selling more than three million copies) and I've Been In Love Before (which sold over two million copies).

We have five pairs of tickets for this fantastic concert. To enter, simply answer this question: **What date is the Here & Now concert at Wembley Arena?**

Send your entry on a postcard along with your

e-mail address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to Here & Now Comp, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent, TN25 6SR.

Closing date is May 1, 2008.

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TALK TIME

ANDY CAPON

The lead singer of local band The Trouser Trumpets, Andy Capon, discusses a busy summer of festival appearances his group have secured



Which festivals are you playing this year?

We are down for quite a few so far: Faversham Hop Festival, Broadstairs folk week and a festival in Kent which we can't talk about yet because we haven't been confirmed. But it's huge and we're very excited about it.

We've decided not to play a couple of other festivals because the organisers are refusing to pay the local bands, which is wrong. All bands, especially the local ones that helped the organisers get their project off the ground in the early days, should receive payment – even if it's just a token £100 per band.

What is it like to play to such a big crowd; do you prefer playing pub gigs?

We love festivals, and larger venues. We're a big band with 11 members and we are a festival type band – it's all very theatrical and visual, with props and all manner of mayhem – so the bigger the stage, the better. We can't play many pubs because most of them don't have the room!

Have you got any new songs in the pipeline?

We are covering some songs from the 1920s and 1930s – and are working on some of our own new stuff including 'My Wife is on a Diet' and 'Cushion Foot Stomp'. We are also working on a swing version of 'Peter Cushing lives in Whitstable', and have received some very positive feedback on our version of 'Hey Jude' – we've turned it into a Tango version.

What are your plans for the rest of the year?

We are working on the album 'At Home with the Trouser Trumpets', and looking forward to the festivals and private gigs we have lined up over the coming months.

YOUR LETTERS



Wait until next year for us to go electric

Interested to read Paul Price's comments on the cancellation of the Electric Gardens music festival in your paper last week (Festival blow to economy, Yourswale, April 16).

In particular, it was encouraging to see him suggest local businesses could step in to help support a similar event to fill the gap in the calendar.

However, I'm not too sure he is fully aware of the cost involved in staging such an event – and most importantly, securing the acts required to make it attractive enough to get a big crowd.

In particular, I think Kent is well served for music festivals this summer, and without a particularly strong line-up, any replacement event would suffer.

Radio 1 is staging its star-studded Big Weekend, Neil Young and Primal Scream are playing at the Hop Farm, and there's Zoo Thousand at Port Lympne with the likes of Mark Ronson and Athlete.



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NOT only can you use email and letters to respond to our stories, don't forget you can comment via our website too.

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To leave your remarks, simply click on the 'Add your comments' link and tell us what you think. And remember, www.yourswale.co.uk is updated daily, bringing you the latest, breaking news from across Faversham, Sittingbourne, Sheerness and all the villages in Swale.

We will include the best on these pages too – ensuring your comments reach the widest possible audience. In addition, if you find your newsagent, supermarket or petrol station runs out of Yourswale before you've picked up your copy, you never need to miss out.

On www.yourswale.co.uk you can access, for free, the full newspaper in our highly-acclaimed e-editions.

All of which means I fear this summer we may have to concede defeat – but make sure next year

it returns to Mount Ephraim.

Claire Hart
Via email

Weaknesses in the fight against C diff

I was very pleased to see that you gave publicity to the work of the recent health hygiene forum in your paper (Campaign has hand in hygiene advance, Yourswale, April 9).

I was the author of the paper on hand alcohol and it was good to see that you highlighted the most important points.

It remains to be seen whether the hospitals take up the suggestions.

Hand cleaning at entrances (and exits) we feel is very important and not done in East Kent hospitals.

I would like to draw your attention to another key issue in the same debate.

This is on the use of chlorine, an essential for the control of C difficile.

It is in many ways more important that the hand cleaning as it highlights various weakness in the hygiene system for C difficile, not just in East Kent but nationally.

John Fletcher
Ex-East Kent Hospitals PPIF

Big earning speed camera is not listed

I went to the Kit Car Show at Detling recently and was going up Detling Hill to find the speed camera van parked in its regular spot in the lay-by half way up the hill.

Following on from the report you printed from the Kent and Medway Camera Safety Camera Partnership stating how all camera sites are listed, I decided to look this one up.

Strangely enough, this lucrative site is not listed! The one further along the A249 is, but not the one in the 50mph

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zone. To me this is a dual carriageway, which should be 70mph, but has been downgraded to 50mph, up one of the steepest hills in Kent, which I can only imagine is to 'harvest' a generous income for the partnership?

There is a fixed camera at the start of the hill, possibly to cover the junction, but beyond this point, how many speed-related (not all) accidents have occurred on this section of carriageway?

Perhaps Rachel Wall of the camera partnership could tell us why one of their big earners is not listed on their site and the accident record to justify its continued use.

Terry Hudson
Via email



TV star Tony names commuter route as UK's top train trip

IT MAY surprise some commuters but the train route between London and Whitstable is named as the best in the country.

Train journey isn't a patch on the Highlands

If Tony Robinson genuinely believes the Whitstable to London train route the best in the UK, can I suggest he joins us commuters on the platform upon a rush hour? (TV

star Tony names commuter route as UK's top train trip, Yourswale, April 16).

Having commuted for five years, I can safely say that it is far from one of the great train journeys of our time.

Yes, the stretch coming into Whitstable is very pleasant as you come along the coast, but as for the rest – well, the less said the better.

Going through the likes of Sittingbourne, the Medway towns and up into London is hardly up there with routes which sweep through the Highlands surely?

Greg Bailey
Via email

It's just a monotonous route into the capital

Did Tony Robinson travel the same route that I endure everyday?

I catch the train to London from Faversham – thus missing the final coastal route to Whitstable – and rarely do I ever think to myself 'this is one of the best train routes in the country'. In fact quite the opposite.

I'm sure if you live in London and the sight of a field or a sheep is worth writing home about then it brings something special, but to everyone else, it's just a rather monotonous route to the capital.

Victor Turner
Faversham

I miss the urban bobby on the beat

You asked in last week's papers for your views on rural policing, amid claims some in the countryside felt

'isolated'. Well, I'd say that policing is hardly high profile in the towns either.

In fact, the days when you could stroll through a high street and always spot a 'bobby on the beat' seem to be long gone – and that's a great shame.

Such a police presence used to deter so much trouble – but more importantly it reassured us all.

Edna Sugden
Blean

The shame of our record on animal tests

Every year on April 24, compassionate people around the world speak out on behalf of the victims of vivisection.

World Day for Laboratory Animals is a time to reflect upon the suffering of millions of mice, cats, monkeys, fish, rats, dogs, birds, rabbits, pigs, horses and many other species.

Despite mounting evidence demonstrating that the information gained by using animals cannot be reliably applied to human medicine, the suffering continues, and both animals and people continue to die.

The UK conducts about three million 'procedures' on animals every year, which is more than any other EU country – a fact that we should feel ashamed of.

This year, please make your voice heard.

Find out how by contacting Animal Aid on 01732 364546 or visiting www.animalaid.org.uk.

Kate Fowler-Reeves
Head of campaigns
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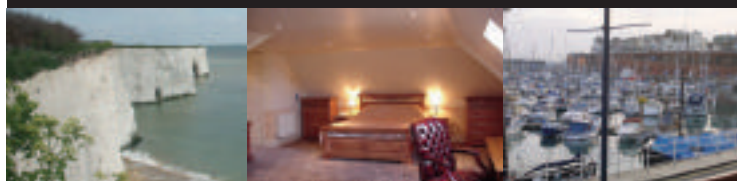
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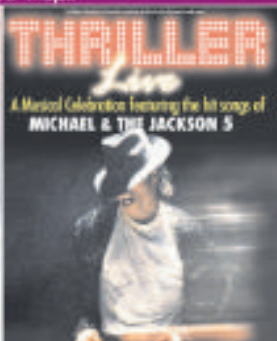
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**STEELEYE SPAN:** Since forming in 1969, the band have become an institution. They will be performing their hits in Tunbridge Wells

Spanning the generations

The pioneers of folk rock are still electric

AS the acknowledged pioneers of folk rock, Steeleye Span brought the genre to the international stage.

Since forming in 1969, the group has been at the forefront of the field and become a musical institution. Members have come and gone over the years, but the line-up has always included some of the leading lights of the British folk scene. Perhaps best known for the hits *All Around My Hat* and *Gaudete*, the band has delighted audiences around the world and achieved gold disc sales status.

Following the revival of traditional British music in smoky clubs during the 50s and 60s, some musicians were beginning to consider the idea of setting folk music to electric accompaniment. In 1969 Fairport Convention released *Liege and Lief*, an acclaimed album of traditional ballads, but most members of the band did not wish to continue the trend.

However, bass player Ashley Hutchings was inspired by the discovery and he found like-minded musicians in the form of Maddy Prior, Tim Hart and Gay and Terry Woods. The group moved into a country house to get to know each other, before recording their first album *Hark! The Village Wait*.

Unfortunately the rehearsal process had not been entirely harmonious and the album would never be performed live, with the Woods being replaced by traditional singer Martin Carthy.



Fiddler Peter Knight was also recruited and the band finally embarked on their first live tour. They also began to get involved in drama and the idea of touring the US was mooted, but Hutchings and Carthy suddenly announced they were leaving the band. The next line-up featured bass player Rick Kemp and guitarist/singer Bob Johnson.

There would be further changes over the decades, but the band took a strong cult following and converted it into an international fan base. They

toured the US with Jethro Tull, entertaining thousands of people with their dramatic staging and unusual songs. Following that tour they recorded the album *Now We Are Six*, which included a track on which David Bowie played saxophone.

Another project required a ukulele and, not knowing anybody who played, the band drafted in Peter Sellers for the afternoon.

It was the release of album *All Around My Hat* in 1975 that saw the peak of the band's commercial success and landed them an appearance on *Top of the Pops*, their second after *Gaudete*. Chart success would not come again, but the band's popularity in the electric folk world continued.

The success of the 35th anniversary tour in 2004 led to the recording of studio albums *Babylon*, *Winter* and the latest album *Bloody Men*, released in November 2006. The current line-up comprises Maddy Prior, the voice of Steeleye Span for 34 years, stalwart fiddler Peter Knight, bassist Rick Kemp, Ken Nicol on guitar and vocals and drummer Liam Genockey.

The show starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £17.50. Call the box office on 01892 530613/532072 or book online at www.assemblyhalltheatre.co.uk.

STEELEYE SPANSunday, May 11
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THE CLEAN HOUSE

Monday, April 28 to
Saturday, May 3
Marlowe Theatre, Canterbury

HOUSEWORK is the unlikely focus for whimsical romantic comedy *The Clean House*, starring Patricia Hodge.

The award-winning play explores the complex lives of four women and one man as they unravel in a painfully clean living room. Written by American Sarah Ruhl in 2004, the play was a Pulitzer Prize finalist and won critics over with its funny and moving script.

Mathilde, a Brazilian maid hired to clean doctor Lane's house, is also an aspiring comedian and is too busy searching for the perfect joke to do much cleaning. When Lane's cleanliness-obsessed sister Virginia arrives, she is horrified and offers to help Mathilde to get the house-



work done.

But when they discover that Lane's husband Charles is having an affair, the reason for Lane's recent depression becomes clear. Charles and his mistress Ana turn up at the house for an awkward confrontation, but Ana's irresistible spirit causes further complications.

Tickets are priced from £12.50 to £23.50. Call the box office on 01227 787787 or book online at www.marlowetheatre.com.

MATUKO

Tuesday, April 29
Gulbenkian Café Bar, Canterbury



Wars is a deeply personal recording, charting her personal journey from Mozambique to London via Swaziland and Portugal. Long time Ronnie Scott side-man Dick Pearce appears on the album on flugelhorn, along with Sade writing collaborator Martin Ditcham on percussion and Bev Davison on violin.

Maiuko is appearing as part of the K-City Music Tuesdays, a monthly event introducing a broad mix of original bands and performers. From seasoned veterans to rising stars, the emphasis is on quality music and making Tuesdays more interesting.

The show starts at 8pm and tickets cost £5. To book call 01227 769075 or visit the website at www.gulbenkiantheatre.co.uk.



MOZAMBICAN "nu-soul diva" Maiuko brings her rich musical heritage to Canterbury for K-City Music Tuesday.

Embracing tribal feels with a little melancholic South African jazz, Maiuko's sound is also driven by old soul and

trip hop grooves. Her song-writing skills have been influenced by the likes of Billie Holiday, Hugh Masekela, Bjork and Massive Attack, while her voice has been compared to Macy Gray and Erykah Badu.

Her debut album *Different*

KIRSTY MCGEE

Friday, April 25
Orange Street Music Festival, Canterbury



DISCOVER a colourful patchwork of experience through the songs of Kirsty McGee when she performs at Atkin Guitars Night.

An instinctive traveller, McGee has lived a restless life and describes herself as a human scrapbook, collecting scraps of experience and interesting observations to create her beautifully crafted songs.

She spent many years hitchhiking and was even homeless for a while, taking part in road protests and building tree houses. Now based in Manchester, she satisfies her wanderlust by maintaining a busy tour schedule.

McGee trained as a classical flute player before joining indie bands in the 90s, but she now plays her own songs on instruments she has built from sustainable timbers.

Since her famous appearance with Suzanne Vega at the Brompton Live Festival in 2001, she has become an in-demand act and her three studio albums have attracted critical acclaim. With her multi-instrumentalist collaborator Mat Martin, she has developed a reputation for personal and engaging live shows.

The gig starts at 8pm and tickets cost £10. Find out more online at www.orangestreet-music.com.



SWALE LEISURE

Church will flood with the sound of music

OARE String Orchestra will be giving a concert at St Mary of Charity Church on Saturday, April 26.

The concert will feature Canterbury Cathedral's renowned organist David Flood and the programme will include Handel's *Concerto in D Minor*.

The concert starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £10/£5. To book call Don Goodsell on 01795 535209. For more information visit the website at www.oare-string-orchestra.org.

Garden lovers will be inspired by plant event

GARDENING enthusiasts will find a host of inspiring specimens at an event at Belmont House and Gardens.

The National Council for the Conservation of Plants and Gardens plant fair is being held in the Walled Garden on Sunday, April 27 and will include stalls from specialist plantmen and nurseries. The event will run from 11am to 5pm. Tickets cost £3 for adults and £1 for children. Find out more online at www.belmont-house.org/gardens.

Don't miss out on a good laugh at theatre

GIVE your laughing gear a work out at the Comedy Inc night at Faversham's Arden Theatre.

On Friday, April 25, resident compere Richard Coughlan will introduce Matt Green, Mike Belgrave and headliner Robin Ince, who has supported Ricky Gervais on all three of his stand-up comedy tours.

The show starts at 8pm and tickets cost £11. Book in advance by emailing Richard at RHAR100@aol.com.

Run along to Norton for night of soft rock music

ANYONE who fancies an evening of live music should go along to Norton tonight, Wednesday.

Fans of soft rock will be particularly pleased to hear that talented duo Run VT will be performing cover versions of classic hits at the Plough Inn in Lewson Street this evening. For more details about the gig call the pub on 01795 521348. More information about the venue can be found on the website www.theploughinn.biz.

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yourswalemusic

Who else will perform at summer festivals?

BY SIMON ROBINSON

FESTIVAL organisers are sadistic geniuses.

Rather than release their full line-up of performers in one big hit, they opt for the 'drip drip' approach, adding odd bands to the bill in random bursts.

The technique is undoubtedly of genius proportions, as it ensures their festival is the talk of the town week in week out.

But it also gives us honest music fans the chance to partake in a fun new game I'm calling Guess Those Bands.

The rules are simple: Take any festival, look at the number of vacant slots still on the bill and then guess which bands you think will be added in the next batch of confirmed performers. For each correct answer you score one point and a big thumbs up from me.

To start the ball rolling, I give you The Hop Farm Festival, being held in Paddock Wood on Sunday, July 6.

Bosses behind the seven-act one-dayer have already confirmed legend Neil Young as headliner, Primal Scream as main support and Britpop heroes Supergrass and American rockers My Morning Jacket as playing – leaving three spaces for Guess Those Bands.

I'm going to plump for Simply Red, Daphne and Celeste, and Des O'Connor as the other acts rounding off the bill. A safe bet for three points, I'm sure you'll agree.

Let's move forward.

Zoo's line-up already boasts cover-version star Mark Ronson, Brighton-based British Sea Power and Mercury Music Award-winning Dizzee Rascal among the dozens of artists already confirmed for the Port Lympne week-



TWO: Which bands do you think will line-up alongside British Sea Power and Mark Ronson at Zoo8?ender. But the official website states there are "More world class acts and headliners to be announced very soon", giving us a chance to play.

How about Right Said Fred, Status Quo and Shabba Ranks? They'd fit right in alongside Funeral For A Friend, The Cribs and Athlete, I think.

While we're at it, what about the Lounge on the Farm event?

Bearing in mind Art Brut, Black Kids and The Bees have already agreed to play the Canterbury festival, it stands to reason that Rolf Harris, Cilla Black and Babylon Zoo will follow suit.

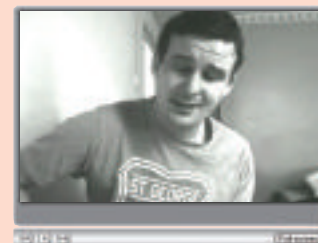


Disclaimer: If I score a single point with my Guess Those Bands predictions I'll retire from the music writing scene a broken and disillusioned man.

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LAST REQUEST: Keri Lovell performs Paolo Nutini's hit



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WOMEN'S SPOTLIGHT

NOT AFRAID OF HARD WORK?
Lovely female, 26, 5'2", brown hair, green eyes, size 10, single mum, enjoys most things, seeks genuine, laid-back guy for fun, friendship and more. Box 428555

HEIGH-HO!
Calling all knights in shining armour! dame in distress, 30, needs rescuing... I can't guarantee love, but can guarantee laughs. Box 894632

LADY MADONNA
Single Mum of 2, 35, great SOH, works full time, seeking male with GSOH, fun-loving and romantic, for possible relationship. Box 438417

UNDER THE BOARDWALK
Black female, 32, 5'8", likes cooking, reading, going out, WLTW a nice man 34-50, down-to-earth and fun to be with, to find out more. Box 435855

EXRESSLY YOURS
31yo Chinese girl, 5'4", slim, no children, seeking tall, white, loving, caring, all-Eastern male for serious relationship. Box 438931

PRETTY WOMAN WANTS HER RICHARD GIERE
Hi I'm 37, 5'8", mousey long hair, grey eyes, N/S, large bubbly lady, love pubs, country walks, bird-watching, seeking kind, tactile, N/S gent, possibly romantic. Box 435574

SEIZE THE DAY
Loving female, 36, 5'4", brown hair, green eyes, likes socialising, staying in, seeks genuine male for friendship and more. Box 428656

READ ME!
Lovely single Mum, 38, 5'4", blonde, slim, loves socialising, good fun and chatty, WLTW similar male for fun and laughter, maybe leading to LTR. Box 372885

DON'T PASS ME BY
Cute, single mum of 4, 39yrs old, Kent based, into most things, looking for friendship or possibly romance. Box 897983

YOUNG-AT-HEART
Attractive 38yr old female, dark brown hair, blue eyes, sporty physique, likes days out, music, concerts, cinema, walking, cycling, seeks loving, fun male, for friendship/relationship. Box 901893

OH MANDY
Mandy, 38, lovely brunette, petite & slim, very tactile & bubbly, professional, calm, WLTW honest, romantic N/S male. Box 432632

THE WIT TO WOOL!
Ken, male, 39, 5'7", dark eyes, GSOH, no ties, likes cosy nights in, socialising, country pubs, cinema, seeks lovely, caring male, for friendship and more. Box 152862

COMPLETE
Bubbly female, 41, 5'2", N/S, enjoys pubs, restaurants, cinema, GSOH, interior design, seeks like minded, fun male for good times. Box 822703

TAKE A CHANCE
Hard-working female, 41, 5'4", bubbly, independent woman, love to laugh, socialising with friends, looking for independent man who values TLC. Box 414156

READ ALL ABOUT IT
Petite, sincere woman, 44, wavy blonde hair, blue eyes, size 10, loves beach walks, animals, DIY, swimming, travelling, WLTW N/S man to share things with. Box 429682

LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETING NEW PEOPLE
45 year old female, has 2 dogs, works full time, likes horse riding, gardening, walks, socialising, enjoys eating out, cinema, good conversation. Box 435464

MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE?
One woman, 45, no ties, one tie, honest, warm and kind. Are you tall, honest, single, motivated, and genuine? If so get in touch. Box 919163

IT'S WHAT YOU MAKE OF IT
44yr old female, blonde hair, 5'5", slim, easygoing, enjoys many things in life, looking for someone similar out there to enjoy life with. Box 436810

NO GAME PLAYERS!
Hi, I'm 46, Music, laughter, sensitivity, and love, I guess that's what I want, but with someone special, are you him? Box 156956

ON A PLATE
Caring, honest 46yr old female, 5'2", eyes of blue, reddish, likes cinema, theatre, walking, WLTW male for fun and friendship. Box 895228

DON'T PASS ME BY
Friendly, bubbly, fun-loving woman, 45, 5'4", GSOH, enjoys socialising, pubs, music, eating in/out, own home/car, smoker, looking for honest man 44-55, who enjoys life. Box 894299

SOFA SO GOOD!
Sally, 46yr old woman, small and slim, brown hair with hazel eyes, likes music, films, animals, days out and shopping on the sofa. Box 893566

SHINE A LIGHT ON ME
I'm Dawn, 47, quite shy and reserved, looking for someone special. I'm 5'6", blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, active, have one dog, work full time. Box 438796

READY TO START AGAIN
Hi, I'm Sue, 48, 5'2", dark hair/eyes, divorced, hard-working, WLTW compatible male, starchy build, for good times, possibly LTR. Box 432992

LOVE CANNOT BE BOUGHT
Happy, fit, youthful 48yr old single mum, OAC, very good sense of humour, Likes all the normal social activities. Very honest. Seeking sincere, stable, solvent man. Box 895929

HUNK SOUTH
Marlene, 46, blonde hair, medium build, likes 4x4, gym, quad-biking, a glass of wine, cinema, music, rugby/soccer/cricket, WLTW sincere youngish guy for friendship and companionship. Box 894117

ALL THAT I NEED
Young-looking, slim, attractive female, 48, fun-loving & outgoing, N/S, GSOH, love music, holidays, going out & staying in, seeks similar man. Box 420160

JUST IMAGINE
Petite brunette, bubbly and friendly, easygoing single mum, 49, enjoys cinema, eating out, socialising, most things, WLTW genuine male to see where life takes us. Box 893562

YOU'LL SMILE IF YOU DIAL
Bubbly 44yr old female, enjoys beaches, pubs, clubs, WLTW a like-minded, caring male to share fun times with. Box 435102

STRIKE OR SPARE!
42-year-old female, 5'7", slim, down-to-earth, normal love bowling, cinema, clubs, seeking a male, 40-55, for friendship and more. Box 436163

FOREVER YOURS
Caroline, 42, single mum, likes having fun, eating out, wine bars, swimming, looking for someone for something meaningful. Box 430592

ON THE WINGS OF LOVE
Tall, outgoing lady, 43, large build, newly settled in Kent, needs to spread her wings and meet a nice chap! Let's chat! Box 895906

ATTRACTIVE BRUNETTE
Fun-loving, affectionate brunette, 43, size 12, N/S, separated amicably with 2 lovely kids, enjoys keeping fit. Seeks good-looking, slim, fit, romantic male. Box 814378

SIMILAR TASTES
Now to this, I'm a 58yr old woman, and I enjoy walks, theatre, meals out, and WLTW genuine man for company. Box 437774

SHE'S THE ONE!
Young-at-heart female, 48, medium build, 5'2", dark hair, blue eyes, GSOH, very active, likes clubs and dining out, seeks someone with similar interests. Box 435908

STOP THE SHAKES!
Hello, 49yr old female, 5'10", blonde, nervous/ outgoing, love music, socialising, simple things in life, seeking a male to look after and settle down with. Box 436633

DIG DEEPER
Genuine, friendly female, 49, likes walks, gardening, nights in/out, seeking genuine, friendly male, 45-55. Dover Box 435441

ENTERTAIN ME
49yo female, medium build, blonde, quite short, seeking tall, confident, sensual guy for regular winning, dining, loving and laughter, honest, genuine and loving. Box 894981

IT'S IN THE AIR
Lovely female, 49, divorced, 5'8", shoulder-length blonde hair, green eyes, size 16, likes dining out, staying in, walks in the country, seeking LTR with similar male. Box 437729

POP CORN FOR 2?
Hi, I'm Anne, 50, 5'1", medium build, brown hair/eyes, enjoy bowling, cinema, meals out, walks, like holidays, theatre, walking, WLTW male for fun and friendship. Box 895228

THE LIGHT OF LOVE
50 year old female, hard working, caring, divorced, looking to have that sparkle back in my life, can you provide it? Box 893611

ROCK AROUND THE CLOCK
Loving, lively, cuddly female, 50, 5'4", enjoys rock music, walking, films, WLTW easygoing male for uncomplicated relationship, good times. Box 894299

BRIGHTEN UP MY WORLD
Loving and lovely 49yr old female, GSOH, enjoys walking, countryside, cinema, theatre, pubs, restaurants, music, travel, seeks sincere and caring male between 46-56 for friendship. Box 909974

ARE YOU LONESOME TONIGHT?
Loyal, bubbly and affectionate, attractive lady, 51, dark hair, enjoy clubs, nights in, love animals, seeking a like-minded person for happiness. Box 433585

WHITSTABLE WONDERLAND
Hi, I'm Yvette, 50, separated, blonde hair/ blue eyes, size 12, 5'2", likes cinema, meals and drinks out, reading, walks, looking for a male, 40-60, for relationship. Box 420160

PUTTER IN YOUR HANDS!
Sporty female, 50, Hasting based, 5'8", blonde/blue, enjoys golf, walking, socialising, eating in/out, WLTW fun-loving, kind, sporty male, 48-60. Box 165387

INDEPENDENT WOMAN
Bright, bubbly, 52, 5'4", blonde hair, recently divorced, own home and car, enjoys many interests - walking, cinema, eating out, drives in the country, looking for companionship and friendship. Box 419966

KENT CALLING!
Hi, I'm kind, caring, attractive lady, 53yrs young, 5'7", brown hair/eyes, GSOH, enjoy walks, reading, travelling etc, WLTW tall, considerate man for friendship, possibly LTR. Box 439240

THE BEAUTIFUL PATH
I'm Helen, 56, 5'2", slim, young at heart, enjoy many interests - walking, cinema, eating out, drives in the country, WLTW similar male, GSOH essential. Box 439296

EVERYDAY PEOPLE
Happily divorced female, 56, 5'4", slim, blonde hair, blue eyes, attractive, intelligent, likes a laugh, the cinema, cooking, walks, WLTW compatible male for everyday romance... Box 439231

LIKES THE LIFE THINGS IN LIFE
Divorced female, 50s, 5'4", own home, great job and friends, likes to keep fit, hobbies include shopping, cooking, dining out, theatre/cinema, holidays, seeking friendship and more. Box 434901

FRIENDS FIRST
Sincere female, 57, caring, separated, I enjoy nights in/out, reading, walking, various activities, just separated for a friend and the see from there. Box 437420

COUNTRY LOVE
Partially disabled 58yr old full time woman, 5'5", fairly attractive, enjoys gardening, home life, WLTW country living man for company and possibly LTR. Box 439065

SAVING ALL MY LOVE
Young, 58yr old modern female widow, slim, enjoys nights in/out, socialising, seeking honest, reliable man for friendship, love, affection and TLC. Box 920739

PUT SPARK INTO LIFE
Happily contented solitary lady, 59, N/S, living in the country near Hythe, seeks gentleman of similar disposition and mood. Box 438722

I'M JUST LIKE BAOPUS!
I'm 59, smoker/driver and ride a motorbike but I'm intelligent, sensitive, caring and loving, with GSOH and many friends, but still looking for someone special. Box 893919

MEANINGFUL RELATIONSHIP?
Widowed, 51'10", GSOH outgoing, fairly fit, genuine, sincere, scrub up well, like clubs, music, travel, holidays, WLTW nice male, 50-58, with similar outlook. Box 434562

PERHAPS WE SHOULD
Single male, 37, 6'1", medium build, interests: cycling, beach walks, meals, socialising, WLTW nice, similar lady for potential romance. Box 435359

REAL MAN
Honest, kind, caring male, 37, blond, 6'1", enjoys walks, cinema, nights in/out, family life, WLTW like-minded, genuine female, Sarah, call again with contact details. Box 430440

FOR YOUR LOVE
Caring, reliable, attractive male, 36, dark hair/ blue eyes, N/S, no ties, GSOH, socialises, seeks kind, down-to-earth, attractive female, for company and hopefully romance. Margate. Box 410659

R U 4 ME?
Down-to-earth, loyal guy, 36, looking for companionship, leading to a long-term relationship. Enjoys meals out, good company, conversation, cosy evenings in. Box 914917

HAPPY HAPPY
Outgoing, easygoing male, 39, slim, short brown hair, like eating out, especially Italian food, enjoy terpen bowling, looking for like-minded, compatible female. Box 439380

TRUE GENTLEMAN
Attractive mated male, 41, 5'10", likes chatting, good company, looking for a friendly female. Box 439380

MINDS HIS OWN BUSINESS!
41yr old piker, loves animals and having lots of laughs, seeks a female of similar character for fun-loving relationship. Box 438023

LOVE ME, LOVE MY DOG
Useful, intelligent, caring female, 62, likes shopping/dining, like walks, music, cooking, seeking sensitive, caring, uncomplicated male, N/S, perhaps a dog owner, for friendship first. Box 434345

LOVE TO LAUGH
Loving, young 25yr old female with a kind heart and passion for life, short hair, blue eyes, like music, socialising, seeks a like-minded female. Box 431117

A NEW CHAPTER...
Apostrophe, 58, 5'7", brown hair, blue eyes, GSOH, caring, animal lover, into DIY, sport, reading, WLTW someone in the Maidstone area. Box 434547

MEN'S SPOTLIGHT

LUCKY DRAW
Fun, bubbly male, 22, painter/decorator, I'm in Maidstone, and I'm looking for nice, genuine girl. Box 439532

RECIPE FOR ROMANCE
Tall guy, dark hair, medium build, a chef. Would love to meet a laid back woman, for friendship, and maybe more. South-east area. Box 439504

LOVE SHINE A LIGHT
Hi I'm 25, with brown hair, brown eyes, 6'1", muscular, WLTW a young blonde, from Canterbury preferably with a glass of wine, seeks attractive, kind, caring female, 30-45, for fun, friendship, relationship. Box 439350

WE ALL HAVE GOOD TIMES
27 year old gent, 6'1", black cropped hair, tall, dark, handsome, seeking someone fun and outgoing, good personality, for good times and maybe more. Box 439303

START IT UP
Average looking guy, 32, slim, tall, grey eyes, short hair, into regular things, pubs, restaurants, GSOH, WLTW similar-aged lady for fun evenings & possible LTR. Box 894163

MEANINGFUL RELATIONSHIP?
Widowed, 51'10", GSOH outgoing, fairly fit, genuine, sincere, scrub up well, like clubs, music, travel, holidays, WLTW nice male, 50-58, with similar outlook. Box 434562

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REAL MAN
Honest, kind, caring male, 37, blond, 6'1", enjoys walks, cinema, nights in/out, family life, WLTW like-minded, genuine female, Sarah, call again with contact details. Box 430440

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BLUE EYED BOY
Mature, 40, 41, dark hair, blue eyes, 5'6", likes cinema, beach walks, bowling, music, holidays, theatre, seeks female, 35-52, for a happy relationship. Box 437774

GOOD SPORT
Easygoing 43yr old single dad, stocky build, very confident, GSOH, enjoy pubs, meals out, look for a lady willing to share laughs and outings. Box 435262

STRIKE!
Richard, 43, single, dark hair, blue eyes, 5'8", loves theatre/musical, holidays, travel, bowling, WLTW female 34-56 to share good times and hope to spend some time. Box 439317

THE GREAT EXPERIMENT!
Athletic build male, 43, 5'8", blue eyes, likes night in and out, sea-fishing, seeking a nice lady to get to know and see what happens. Box 439350

OPEN ARMS
Confident male, 42, 5'10", nice build, single dad, own home, loves cooking, going out, sport, WLTW someone similar to me. Maidstone. Box 414111

WE CAN BE HEROES...
Widowed male, 43, slim, good-looking, enjoys music, cinema, nights in with a glass of wine, seeks attractive, kind, caring female, 30-45, for fun, friendship, relationship. Box 439350

WE ALL HAVE GOOD TIMES
27 year old gent, 6'1", black cropped hair, tall, dark, handsome, seeking someone fun and outgoing, good personality, for good times and maybe more. Box 439303

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LOVE & AFFECTION
Michael, 40, hard-working, shy, likes music, classic cars, good meals, socialising, WLTW female with similar interests to care for and find true happiness with. Box 439215

REAL ONE
50yr old affectionate and considerate man, looking for a beautiful, single female for happy times and more. Box 438932

MADE FOR YOU
Hi there, 50yr old male, 6'1", short hair, I love the cinema, walks, going out, hobbling, seeking female with GSOH for like-minded conversation and more. Box 437486

COUNTRY PLEASURES!
Thoughtful male, 47, 5'11", slim/medium build, short brown hair, looking for bubbly, outgoing lady to share romantic times together. Like wine/dining/dinner, like walking, cooking etc. Box 419208

SMILES ON FACES
Kind male, 50, 5'11", slim, N/S, 2 boys (19 & 16), likes sitting out, visiting London, weekends!! Looking for kind, caring lady. Looks not important. Box 425303

BIG HEART
Hard working, fit, nice guy, 51, 5'8", I'm loyal and have a big heart. I have 2 dogs, and enjoy the cinema, cosy nights in, and fun. Box 437293

LIKE A LAUGH AND A JOKE
Young 51, good-looking, young-looking, N/S, GSOH, fit, slim, romantic, caring, caring, like most things in life: food/wine etc, seeking genuine lady to share life with. Box 434593

WHY WAIT?
Fun-loving male, 52, likes going out, playing golf, motor cycles, socialising, visiting new places, WLTW an interesting female. Box 427713

PERFECT GENTLEMAN
Widowed, 51'10", GSOH outgoing, fairly fit, genuine, sincere, scrub up well, like clubs, music, travel, holidays, WLTW nice male, 50-58, with similar outlook. Box 434562

ACTIVE & ATTRACTIVE
I'm 53, 5'9", good-looking! Love sport, horses, animals generally, WLTW an honest, caring lady, preferably blonde & sporty, to get to know. Box 439298

ALL IN GOOD TIME
Separated male, 56, 5'11", medium build, hazel eyes, non-smoker, own business, loves classic cars, boot fairs, antiques, meals, cinema, holiday, seeking female to share this time and more. Box 438955

FUN-TO-BE-WITH
I'm 57, male, slim, 5'11", separated, a postman, I like playing golf, gardening, cooking. Box 439415

MY GIRL
David, 62, I have my own house/car, enjoy most of life's pleasures, seeking honest, sincere lady to share life together. Box 430794

TAKE A RIDE ON MY HARLEY
I'm 63, I like animals and riding on my Harley, looking for a lady who likes to ride, enjoy the country and the countryside. Box 437612

Men seeking men

FUN TIMES
57yr old looking for fun with an attractive man, I'm good looking, with a slim/medium build. Box 437652

INTERESTED?
Good guy, looking for male, 35-50, I'm 40, green eyes, dark hair, average build. I enjoy pubs, music, cinema, dining in/out. Box 436613

THE GOOD TIMES
61yr old easygoing guy, likes reading, the outdoors, keeping fit, looking for a similar, quiet person, N/S, with a positive outlook in life. Box 429136

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ALL IN GOOD TIME

Tall, black, pretty female, 31, new to the Chatham area, lives watching football, shopping, travel, seeking tall, white, loving male 34-47 for LTR. Box 437778

CUDDLY
32yr old woman, 5'8", brown hair, curly figure, I enjoy having fun and a laugh out WLTW nice, kind gent. Box 439402

TAKE ME OUT
Single Mum, 32, cuddly larger lady, 5'8", dark brown hair, seeking someone to have fun, a dance, some drinks, meals and more with. Box 438941

EQUESTRIAN OF SPORT!
Caring, loving, affectionate female, 30, 5'2", blonde, likes walking, horse riding, animals, seeks affectionate male, 30-40, for lasting, loving relationship. Box 813930

TRY NEW THINGS
Mum of 1, I'm 5'4", blonde, slim, young-looking lady, 34, I'm caring, honest, with a GSOH, I like keep-fit, cinema, dancing, days out. Box 431555

R U THE 1?
Outgoing, funny, young-looking female, 34, 5'8", brown hair/eyes, Tonbridge, seeks caring, loyal male for friendship, leading to more. Box 433107

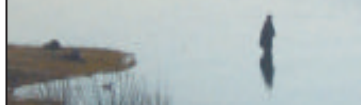
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Divorced, lively mum, 35

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REPUBLIC

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belt, price £20



SWALE SHOPPING

Could we be any more Pacific about price?

A RANGE of the cult toiletries brand Anatomicals is now available in Boots.

The funky products boast colourful packaging, imaginative names and – at less than £2 – an attractive price tag. With products like Hey Tubs Want Some Chocolate? Bath Crème, Could We Be Any More Pacific Marine Bath Gel and I Should Be So Mucky (Mucky, Mucky, Mucky) Anti-Bacterial Hand Wash, bath time should be more fun.

Find the range at selected Boots stores or online at www.anatomicals.net.

Put trust in your child's future with superstore

SAVING for the future will be child's play with the new Asda Child Trust Fund.

Provided in association with The Children's Mutual, the scheme allows family and friends to set up direct debits or make one-off payments into the child's account which can be set up in store, by telephone or online.

Parents will receive a £5 Asda gift voucher for opening the account or a £25 voucher if they set up a monthly direct debit of £10 or more.

Find out more at www.asda.co.uk or by calling 0845 900 0920.

Highlight your best bits with the latest style

IF planning your summer hairstyle is a daunting prospect, enlist the help of your hairdresser.

GW, which has salons in Kent, is offering a number of tips on how to look bronzed and beautiful this summer. A few well-placed touches of colour will lift the face and give an instantly sun-kissed look, while hard-to-maintain hairdos are out and effortless style is in.

GW has salons in Sevenoaks, Bromley, Tunbridge Wells, Sidcup, Tonbridge and Beckenham.

Eat like you're out from the comfort of home

WAITROSE claims shoppers can enjoy the experience of dining out in their own home for a fraction of the price.

With the recently expanded As Good As Going Out range, the supermarket chain is offering 67 ready-made meals that look like they should be on the menu at a posh restaurant.

Starters include Prawn Risotto (£3.79) and Cheddar and Parmesan Souffles (£3.99), while new main courses include Pork and Chorizo Cassoulet (£3.99) and Chili and Lemongrass Risotto with Scallops (£3.79).

Author to cast shadow over store at signing

BESTSELLING children's author Darren Shan will be making an appearance at Bluewater next month.

Shan will be visiting Waterstone's to sign copies of his new book *Death's Shadow*, the seventh instalment in his *Demonata* series. His last signing was extremely popular, so fans should arrive early to avoid disappointment.

He will be appearing from noon to 1pm on Sunday, May 4. For more information call the store on 01322 624831.

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YOUR TV REVIEW

BY TOM BETTS



LOST THE PLOT? Tennant and Tate in Dr Who

DOCTOR WHO
BBC1, 6.20pm, Saturday

"AND before you ask, I had nothing to do with that fire."

No, this wasn't a smatter of chatter from the Isle of Thanet – where the wooden rollercoaster has been wrecked – but David Tennant early on in a recent Doctor Who adventure.

The good Doctor was in Pompei for the build-up to the big eruption, which naturally all linked in with alien weirdness in some way, somehow.

Not wishing to sound dumb, and undoubtedly failing miserably, I'm finding the sci-fi hit's plotlines almost impossible to follow at the moment.

For a show that relies on younger viewers to make up a large share of its audience, the current crop of Who writers may well be setting the bar a little bit too high.

Either that or I'm just thick.

However, this is not the only problem spooking the Tardis these days.

As latest assistant Donna, Catherine Tate has turned up to wreak havoc in the annals of time, but it's hard to see what she is actually bringing to the party, for this is a sci-fi and a catchphrase-free zone.

Tate aside – and please let's leave her there – it's hard to pinpoint just

where Doctor Who is falling short at the moment.

It looks good, and it is a show I desperately want to like, but it just doesn't seem to click.

One factor may be just that it's a little bit too slick for its own good.

Tennant is the most polished Doctor yet and the days of the wobbly sets and bubblewrap monsters have long been consigned to the skip to be replaced with CGI.

It will be an interesting series and there's still a long way to go.

A certain Billie Piper returns as Rose before too long and the imminent comeback of insane superbaddie, Davros, creator of the Daleks, is also rumoured to be nigh.

It's still pulling in the audiences, but the jury is still very much out.



MATTER OF TASTE: The Great British Menu

THE GREAT BRITISH MENU
BBC2, 6.30pm, week days

SIMMERING away nicely on BBC2 is The Great British Menu.

This surprise hit is now on to its third series and still fresher than a pound of just-picked peas.

Slightly bitchy in its content, as ego-driven chefs do battle over the stove, this also retains a homely just-got-home-from-work feel, while managing to avoid becoming an Ainsley Harriot-style schmaltz fest.

One to have a look at while awaiting dinnertime inspiration, perhaps.

YOUR WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

BY RUSSELL GRANT



AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19)

YOU could hear news of a career matter. Getting a new job gives you enough money to buy a beautiful home. If you don't have the cash to make the purchase, you will be granted a generous loan. Stepping up your exercise routine will give you more energy. Starting a new line of work is always tiring. To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aquarius** 09067-531762



TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21)

A PARTNERSHIP matter comes to a successful close. You and your associate could switch duties and this will give you a deeper appreciation of each other's talents. Learning a foreign language or going abroad could change the way you see the world. Living could put you on the path to love. To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Taurus** 09067-531753



LEO (Jul 24-Aug 23)

AN agreement could come to a close. Alternatively, it may be time to sign mortgage papers. This is a wonderful turn of events, as it will put you in a more secure situation. You may have an opportunity to get a better job. Doing work you enjoy will lift your mood dramatically. To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Leo** 09067-531756



SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22)

PEOPLE admire the way you speak up for the underdog. Too often, bullies get their way by steamrolling the opposition. You will prove a formidable opponent to these manipulators. Teaming up with a rebel will make your pulse pound. Talk about chemistry! To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Scorpio** 09067-531759



PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20)

A LEGAL matter could reach a satisfying conclusion. Go out and Celebrate with your nearest and dearest. An unorthodox statement may win the affection of an onlooker who admires the way you march to the beat of your own drum. In turn, you will appreciate their forthright attitude. To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Pisces** 09067-531763



GEMINI (May 22-Jun 22)

YOU could see exciting results from taking just a little more exercise. People who never looked twice at you are starting to stare with admiring eyes. If you're already in a relationship, your partner may become extra amorous. Prepare to spend lots of time in bed this week. To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Gemini** 09067-531754



VIRGO (Aug 24-Sep 23)

PEOPLE have been waiting to know what your next move will be. Send a mass email proclaiming the news. You may decide to embark upon a course of study, or leave a mundane job. It means you may have to take a risk, but even a security orientated person like you needs to take the odd gamble. To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Virgo** 09067-531757



SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21)

YOU have a great opportunity to spend quality time by yourself. Developing a business plan is a good idea. Promising job offers could be headed your way. An austere authority figure admires your work ethic. It may be impossible to contain your feelings for the object of your affection. To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Sagittarius** 09067-531760



ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20)

YOU may be tempted to spend a windfall on luxuries, but you'd be better off paying off any debts you have. You're making exciting progress in your career and a promotion comes with a pay raise, too. A surprise visitor could arrive at your door. It's wonderful to see this person after so many years. To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aries** 09067-531752



CANCER (Jun 23-Jul 23)

THE opportunity to travel could fall into your lap. Seize it, or somebody else will take your place. You've been restless lately, and you'll enjoy the change. A casual romance could reach its turning point. It's time to decide whether or not you want to take this relationship to the next level. To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Cancer** 09067-531755



LIBRA (Sep 24-Oct 23)

STANDING by your principles will yield rewards. People admire your ability to go against conventional wisdom for the sake of the group. You may be given an opportunity to work from home or start your own business. Someone is drawn to your earthy sensuality may have a secret crush on you. To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Libra** 09067-531758



CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20)

GAINING entry to an exclusive club makes your spirits soar and you're bound to make powerful business contacts. You will also meet some wonderful friends. You are drawn to an older person with a cosmopolitan background. This person could give you a deep appreciation for the arts. To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Capricorn** 09067-531761

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Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9

EASY

1	9	3						
		5		9	4			3
	7	8			3	2		
3					9	6	1	
			3	6	5			
	5	2	4					7
		1	9			7	4	
7			8	3		5		
						3	9	8

MEDIUM

	6	7		4				1
5	4							
				9	6	5	4	
1				3	8			
	3	9			4	1		
	5	4					6	
	1	7	8	6				
8			2	7		5		

HARD

			5	9	4			
6		7				9	3	1
							8	
8	9				7	1		
4								6
		1	6				9	2
	1							
7	6	8			5			9
			2	6	1			

CRYPTIC CLUES

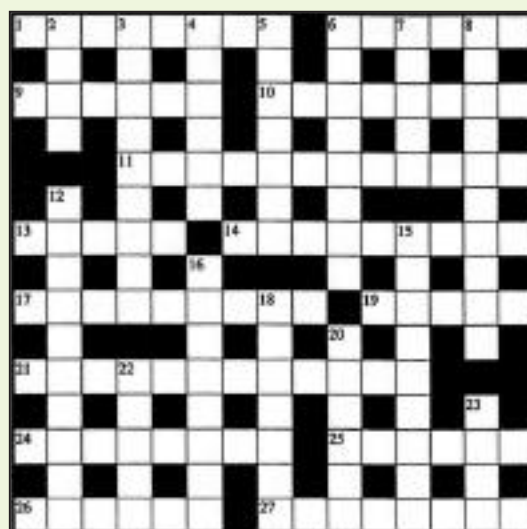
ACROSS

- 1 People not well advised to stay here (8)
- 6 Cook's formula? (6)
- 9 Fellow of stone (6)
- 10 Go next day, say, to Biblical city (8)
- 11 Fourth window? (12)
- 13 On Friday Edward did some cooking (5)
- 14 Does this part of the theatre offer scope for the inexperienced? (9)
- 17 Scarf then clock was removed (9)
- 19 One before ten in turbulent new environment was pale (5)
- 21 How gin was made to disappear? (8,4)
- 24 Rest clap wildly when it is eerie (8)
- 25 Cupholder Elizabeth back in the country (6)
- 26 Troubled a corny writer (6)
- 27 Cut back engineers ditch (8)

DOWN

- 2 Not quite round the ground (4)
- 3 Two high-pitched sounds coming from contemptible person (9)
- 4 Doubly dark plaid (6)
- 5 One who leaves smoothly on river (7)
- 6 It was said to be dirty again (8)
- 7 Dog coming from Bacchic orgies (5)
- 8 From photo, erase weapon (10)
- 12 Request made by broadsheet in parliamentary agenda (5-5)
- 15 Off-the-peg is very convenient (5-4)
- 16 It smoothes explosive inflator (8)
- 18 One working overhead about two days for fish (7)
- 20 Cheap American duo took part (3-3)
- 22 Hard to describe these mountains (5)
- 23 Last character included metal (4)

SCRIBBLE HERE



QUICK CLUES

ACROSS

- 1 Large airliner (5,3)
- 6 Art movement (6)
- 9 Wildcat (6)
- 10 Laid waste (8)
- 11 Chivalrously (12)
- 13 Thin crisp biscuit (5)
- 14 Romantic play (9)
- 17 Stubbard (9)
- 19 Loud slap (5)
- 21 Mad (5,3,4)
- 24 Woodwind instrument (8)
- 25 Coldest US state (6)
- 26 Header (anag.) (6)
- 27 Game of chance (8)

DOWN

- 2 Poisonous tree (4)
- 3 Most offhand (9)
- 4 Sleeveless coat (6)
- 5 Immature frog (7)
- 6 Unyielding (4-4)
- 7 A slab (anag.) (5)
- 8 Colony (10)
- 12 Mystified (10)
- 15 Renounce (9)
- 16 Example (8)
- 18 Loudspeaker (7)
- 20 Feeling of having previously experienced something (4,2)
- 22 Courage (5)
- 23 Burlesque (4)

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

SUDOKU SOLUTIONS No32

EASY

8	7	5	4	8	1	2	3	9
4	8	1	7	3	9	6	5	2
6	2	3	7	5	8	1	4	9
5	8	9	6	1	2	7	4	3
7	1	2	8	4	3	9	5	6
3	4	9	6	7	1	2	8	5
8	3	6	1	7	5	4	9	2
2	5	7	6	9	4	3	8	1
1	9	4	3	2	8	5	6	7

MEDIUM

1	3	8	4	9	2	5	7	6
7	2	5	6	1	8	4	9	3
4	9	8	7	3	5	8	1	2
8	1	4	6	2	3	7	9	5
9	7	2	1	6	4	3	5	8
6	5	3	9	8	7	1	2	4
3	8	1	2	7	6	9	4	5
5	6	7	3	4	9	2	8	1
2	4	9	8	5	1	6	3	7

HARD

5	1	2	9	3	4	7	8	6
3	9	8	7	5	6	1	4	2
6	7	4	8	1	2	3	9	5
4	3	7	8	9	1	6	2	5
2	6	1	4	8	7	9	5	3
9	8	5	2	6	3	4	1	7
8	2	6	1	7	9	5	3	4
1	5	3	6	4	8	2	7	9
7	4	9	3	2	5	6	8	1

CRYPTIC SOLUTION No32

ACROSS: 1 Lightweight 9 Avatar 10 Galilei
12 Lily pad 14 Alcohol 15 Over the hill
16 Tin 17 Sum 19 Redoubtable 22 Risotto
23 Eternal 24 Abiding 25 Either 26
Pestiferous. DOWN: 2 Involve 3 Hot spot
4 War 5 Ingratitude 6 Helical 7 Old hat
8 Violoncello 11 Bloodstream
13 Dreadnought 18 Mastic 19 Ratline
20 Tweeter 21 Bandeau 25 Elf.

QUICK SOLUTION No33

20 De ja vu 22 Nerve 23 Skit
15 Repudiate 16 Instance 18 Tweeter
7 Balsa 8 Settlement 12 Bamboozled
3 Brinsford 4 Jerkin 5 Tadpole 6 Cast-iron
26 Adhere 27 Roulette. DOWN: 2 Uppas
14 Melodrama 17 Obscurely 19 Spank
10 Desolate 11 Quixotically 13 Water
ACROSS: 1 Jumbo jet 6 Cubism 9 Jaguar

Answers to all of this week's quizzes can be found on our website

yourswalecinema



ON GENERAL RELEASE

STREET KINGS (15)



KEANU Reeves stars as Tom Ludlow, a veteran LAPD cop who finds life difficult to navigate after the death of his wife. When evidence implicates him in the execution of a fellow officer, he is forced to go up against the cop culture he's been a part of his entire career, ultimately leading him to question the loyalties of everyone around him.

FOOLS GOLD (12A)



BEN Finn Finnegan is an affable, modern-day treasure hunter obsessed with finding the legendary 18th century Queen's Dowry - 40 chests of treasure lost at sea in 1715. In his quest, Finn has sunk everything he has, including his marriage to Tess. Just as Tess has begun to rebuild her life, Finn discovers a vital clue to the treasure's whereabouts.

IN BRUGES (18)



BELGIAN city Bruges is a welcoming destination for travellers from all over the world. But for hit men Ray and Ken, it could be their final destination; a difficult job has resulted in the pair being ordered by their London boss Harry to go and cool their heels in the storybook city for a couple of weeks. And when the call from Harry does finally come, Ken and Ray's vacation becomes a life-and-death struggle.

Renee and George are simply good friends

■ BY SARAH O'MEARA

EVEN wearing four-inch, black patent Christian Louboutin heels (the ones with the red soles) Renee Zellweger is still half a head shorter than her Leatherheads co-star and director George Clooney.

But as the two discuss his homage to the forties screwball comedy - think witty banter, Bringing Up Baby, raised eyebrows and cloche hats - what the Texan tinkerbelle lacks in size, she makes up for in 'verbosity', as she calls it. According to Clooney, Zellweger's natural wit and sarcasm, often disguised by her breathy, southern tones, made her the obvious choice for his latest directorial effort.

"We slur. We say 'you know'. But Renee has this incredible ability to walk straight into a period piece," he says admiringly.

In his first directing venture since Good Night And Good Luck, Renee plays Chicago Tribune reporter, Lexie Littleton, on the trail of top football star Carter Rutherford (John Krasinski, from the American version of The Office). Dressed to kill, she is more than a match for any man, and crosses verbal swords with wise cracking football manager, 'Dodge' Connolly (Clooney) at every opportunity.

Set in the late twenties, Leatherheads charts the rise of professional American football. Seen as a game for losers with nowhere else to go after high school, Dodge sets out to change things.

He persuades American college football star and war hero Rutherford to join his team, the Duluth Bulldogs. Soon the players are wearing fur, the stands are packed and sponsorship deals flooding in; but Lexie has her doubts about Dodge's star player.

George and Renee are natural sparring partners, both on and off screen. Speaking about the film, Clooney waxes lyrical about his

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love of forties comedies, while Renee admits to knowing exactly nothing about the genre.

She says: "I just liked the script. Coming from George, believe it or not, it really was good. I'm completely ignorant of cinema history and this fella here had to educate me a little bit. We had screenings in place of rehearsals just to make sure everyone was familiar with the style. It was a challenge. And I didn't want to get hit so I did my homework."

George clarifies cheerfully: "I never did it with a closed fist - always the open hand."

It's hard to stay serious with these two in the room. Renee is as coy, mischievous and irreverent as George is passionate, good-humoured and frank. As the conversation wheels from curling to politics, every opportunity to mock one another is taken.

But despite the speculation, both actors have always claimed to be just good friends.

George says: "I was joking in an interview



BATTLE: Renee Zellweger and George Clooney make excellent sparring partners both on and off screen

and I said something like, 'Well I like her a little bit'. And the next day it was all over the papers. She came in and was like, 'Just a little bit?!' Jokes don't often work in print."

But their lack of sexual chemistry off screen doesn't stop sparks flying on set. A series of gorgeous suits and dresses, artfully created by George's favoured production designer Louise Frogley, make Zellweger fairly irresistible and even manage to give the svelte beauty a few curves.



LEATHERHEADS
Certificate PG

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Intensely incredible India

BY DAVID FIRTH

THE two customs men looked fierce, and I feared a telling off for losing my landing card between immigration control and the baggage carousel.

But the ice was broken with a bribe of two Cox's apples, and the Delhi airport officials overlooked my absent-mindedness and cheerfully waved me through. It was my first taste of India's extremes – outwardly officious, but in truth, intensely down to earth.

Though I was here as a tourist, my adventure was not to be made backpacker-style. I was to mix luxury with the sights and sounds of one of the world's most romantic buildings, the Taj Mahal.

My visit was in June, and yes, it was hot. Few tourists visit in midsummer, with cooling monsoon rains still a month away. But if you can stand the thermometer hitting the 40 degree mark, it's a quieter and cheaper time to see north India's majestic emblem.

I travelled to Agra, home of the Taj, by road. A distance of 130 miles, Delhi and Agra are directly linked by one of India's finest dual carriageways. But while the highway is indeed wide, my minibus was fighting for space with oxen, bicycle rickshaws, tractors, buses and overloaded trucks.

Only brave or foolhardy visitors would hire a car for the trip. But just under five hours later we were there – pulling into the Oberoi



BREATH TAKING: The Taj Mahal shines with radiance

Amarvilas, where every room boasts a clear view of the Taj Mahal, barely 600 metres away.

The Taj is traditionally visited soon after dawn, or before sunset. I decided to go after sunrise – after first taking in the view from my balcony. The ivory domes rose above the surrounding trees, flown over by green parakeets and jet black crows.

It is almost eerie to see something so familiar. And luckily for me, it had rained a week earlier, so the marble walls were washed of dust and radiated in the sun.

At the gates of the Taj, and indeed outside all tourist traps, hawkers are ready to pounce – and you've got to be ready for them. The persistence of postcard and guide-book sellers can be frustrating. Once through the gates, however, the world is more at peace.

The Taj Mahal was built by the Mughal emperor Shah Jahan in the mid 17th century, a monument of love to his favourite wife, queen Mumtaz Mahal. The white marble was carried by elephants from 200 miles away. It took 22 years and 20,000 men to build.

Passing through the red sandstone gateway, the Taj lies dead ahead, beyond the famous watercourse. It was quiet, even after 8am.

Once at the building itself, shoes are removed and you walk to the entrance up smooth, marble steps. Up close, you are confronted with fantastically-intricate stone carvings. Marble screens are inlaid with semi-precious stones such as black onyx, opaque yellow jasper and sea green turquoise.

From 600 metres, or at arm's length, the Taj is breathtaking.

What is amazing to a Western visitor is that so little is off-limits. Because the marble of the Taj is so hard, it has only been polished, not worn, by the millions of hands and feet which have brushed against it.

Such is the Taj's pulling power, there were far more Indians than Western tourists who had come to pay homage. A handful of Muslims prayed in the mosque which lies to the side.

The Indian tourist board's catchphrase is 'Incredible India'. They aren't kidding.

FACT FILE: INDIA

Time difference	UK +4 1/2 hours
Capital	Delhi
Population	Approx 1.12 billion
Currency	Rupee (79 to £1 approx)
Religion	Hindu
Climate	Tropical
Language	Hindi/English

Holiday details

David Firth travelled with Air France which flies to Delhi via Paris from nine UK airports including Heathrow (from £428.40).

Air France reservations: 0870 142 4343 and www.airfrance.com.

Operators with packages to the Taj Mahal include Sonak, which offers return flights, transfers and three nights' B&B at the Oberoi Amarvilas from £1,629, including transfers. Eight-night room-only packages, including JET return flights into Delhi and road transfers to Agra, start at £1,199.

Sonak reservations: 0208 423 3000 and www.sonak.co.uk.

Oberoi Hotels and Resorts reservations: 00800 1234 0101 and www.oberoihotels.com.



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birthsdeathsmarriages



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BIRTHS

ANSBRO

Chloe born on 11th April 2008, weighing 8lbs 11oz. Daughter to Maria and David and baby sister to Lauren in Maidstone.

AVELING

Olivia born on 7th April 2008, weighing 7lbs 13oz. Daughter to Liz and Kelvin in Margate. A sister for Jessica.

BARTHOLOMEW

Tyrone, Liz and Connor are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful daughter Alisha Joy on 12th April 2008 weighing 7lb 5oz.

BEARDAH

Alison and Matthew Beardah of Larkfield celebrate the birth of their son Maxwell Samuel James Beardah on 8th April 2008, weighing 7lb 12oz.

BENT

Charles Lewis Bent was born on the 10th April 2008 to his delighted parents James and Louise. Charlie was born at 1.55am and weighed 8lb 7oz, he is a brother to Alex and Micki.

BURR

Chris and Nik are the proud parents of their beautiful daughter Amelia. Born at Pembury Hospital on 31st March 2008 at 3.54pm, weighing 6lb 7oz.

BURT-DAVIES

Niamh Isabella born on 25th March 2008, weighing 6lb 5oz. Daughter to Guy and Chelsey in Pegwell. Welcome sister to Tegan.

BYRNE

Lucy born on 3rd April 2008, weighing 7lb 7oz. Daughter to Jacquie Birch and Andrew Byrne and sister to Alice. Born in Maidstone.

CHAMPION-BEAMANT

Betty Beament is the proud Grandmother to Jazmine Rea Champion-Beament born on Wednesday 12th March 2008 at 5.14pm in Maidstone Hospital.

COGGER

Lacey Mae born on 29th March 2008, weighing 8lb. Daughter to Sam and Martin in Maidstone. Sister to Jayden, Harley and Charley.

CONN

Maja and Nathanael Conn of Maidstone celebrate the birth of their daughter Laura Helen Conn on 4th April 2008.

DECAUX

Charlotte Willis and Kane DeCaux of Staplehurst celebrate the birth of their daughter Lilly Kate DeCaux on 2nd April 2008.

DIMMOCK

Teddy Michael our gorgeous boy born on 19th March 2008 weighing 8lb 7oz. Son to Paul Dimmock and Kelly Crabb.

DURLING

Liam Durling born on 9th April 2008, weighing 8lb. Son to Alan and Tracey and brother to Lucas of Maidstone.

ELS

Jaques and Natalie of Whitstable, celebrate the birth of their son, Patrick Matthew Els on 28th March 2008.

ESTEVE

Philippe and Kerry celebrate the birth of their daughter Anaïs on 22nd March 2008. Welcome sister to Louis and Amaris.

EVANS

Dan and Sophie Evans of Cowden proudly announce the birth of their daughter Matilda Emily Elizabeth Evans born 25th March 2008 weighing 8lb 8oz.

GRANT

Charles Robert Grant born on 2nd April 2008, weighing 7lb 15oz. Son to Mark and Vicky Grant in Kings Hill.

HADLOW

Edward and Dawn of Herne Bay are proud to announce the birth of their son Fletcher. Fletcher was born on 19th March 2008 and weighed 6lb 12oz.

HALL

Terry and Meinir Hall are pleased to announce the birth of their son Tomos at 1.23pm on the 7th April 2008 weighing 7lb 8oz. A brother for Mari.

HICKMOTT

Alan and Katy of Tunbridge Wells are pleased to announce the birth of their beautiful daughter Lana Sophia Hickmott born on the 3rd April 2008 weighing 7lb.

HILLS

Debbie and Rhys of Aylesham are proud to announce the arrival of their beautiful baby daughter Lillia Margaret.

HUCKSTEP

Tanya and Ian Huckstep of Whitstable, celebrate the birth of Erin Marie on 13/03/2008.

HUSSAIN

Jaicob Rafek born 4th April 2008 weighing 8lb 11oz, son to Johnny and Nhaylene Hussain Brother to Jayden and Jarred.

INGRAM

Rob and Emma are delighted to announce the arrival of their gorgeous son Riley Jay Ingram. He was born on the 8th April 2008 at 7.39 am and weighed a healthy 7lb 4oz. He is a total delight to his parents and family.

KEMP

Dan and Jenny of Edenbridge are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Abigail Kemp born 22nd March 2008 weighing 8lb 10oz.

KNIGHT

Harrison James Knight born on 12th April 2008, weighing 6lb 14oz. Beautiful son to Hayley and Darren of Maidstone.

LEWIS

Natasha and Steven of Maidstone celebrate the birth of their son Louie James Lewis on 9th April 2008.

MILLINSON

Owen Lee Jake born on 7th April 2008, weighing 9lb 6oz. Son to Donna and Stefan in Margate. A brother to Chloe and Jake.

MOODY

Evie Mai born on 29th March 2008, weighing 6lb 12oz. Daughter to Karen and Shaun in Ramsgate.

MOORE

Steven and Pauline are delighted to announce the birth of their twin sons Josh Steven and Jake Joseph on 29th February 2008 weighing 6lb 1oz and 4lb 9oz. Brothers to Thomas and Jade.

O'CONNELL

Darren and Amanda of Ramsgate celebrate the births of their twin sons David and Michael O'Connell on 10th March 2008. Love from brother and sisters Emily, Ruby and Tommy.

PANNELL

Kevan and Claire Pannell of Edenbridge are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter Lily Rose born 30th March 2008 weighing 6lb 15oz.

PEARCE

Lana Morgan born on 1st April 2008, weighing 4lb 11oz. Daughter to Julie and Andrew in Ramsgate.

PURDY

Tegan Kaye Doris born on fourth April 2008, weighing 6lb 4oz. Daughter to Ian and Claire Purdy in Ramsgate. A sister for Tyler Daniel.

SANDS

To Brian and Leanne (nee Ackland) of Herne Bay a beautiful son, Dylan Edward, born on 18th March 2008. Dylan weighed 7lb 1oz.

SHAW

Dean and Cheryl celebrate the birth of their twin daughters Chanelle and Rhianna born on 3rd April 2008.

STAPLES

Paul and Alison of Whitstable are proud to announce the birth of their son, Ethan Charles, on 31st March 2008.

SWINERD ROBERTS

Marley Jay born on 27th March 2008 weighing 5lbs 12ozs. Son to Chris Roberts and Tracy Swinerd.

THORPE

Luke and Emma of Ramsgate celebrate the birth of their son Brandon on 4th April 2008. You are the miracle who we will love and treasure forever.

UPCHER- COUSINS

Alexander Peter George born on 26th February 2008, weighing 7lb 6oz. Son to Donna and Mark in Ramsgate. Welcome brother to Tanith and Rowan.

WICKHAM

Dean and Lauren are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful daughter Lyla Joy Wickham, who was born at 3.30pm on the 4th April 2008 and weighed 7lb 3oz.

WIFFEN

Thomas and Samantha of Ramsgate celebrate the birth of their daughter Summer-Louise on 7th April 2008. Mummy and Daddys little princess.

YATES

Felicity and Steve of Minster are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful baby daughter Libby Louise, born on 5th April 2008 at QEQM, Margate.

DEATHS

ALLEN

Henry Roy Allen of Walmer passed away peacefully on 9th April 2008. A much loved dad and grandad who will be very sadly missed.

ARNOLD

Betty passed away peacefully at home on 10th April 2008. Please contact Lyons of Canterbury for the funeral arrangements.

COUCHMAN

Kathleen Couchman of Maidstone died peacefully on 12th April 2008. Her Funeral Service will be at Blue Bell Hill Crematorium at 1:40pm on 29th April.

CROWHURST

Thomas Stephen Crowhurst (Tom) of Crayford passed away peacefully on 5th April 2008 after a short illness. Sadly missed by family and friends. Funeral to be held on 21st April at 2pm St Paulinus Church Crayford followed by cremation at Eltham Crematorium. Enquiries to Co-op Funeralcare Dartford.

DAVIES

Keith Thompson Davies of Sutton Valence died peacefully on 31st March 2008. Funeral service at Sutton

Valence Church at 11.30am on 22nd April 2008. All enquiries to A.W. Court of Grafty Green on 01622 850840.

DONNELLY

Norma Donnelly of Westgate-on-Sea, passed away peacefully after a long illness on 31st March 2008, aged 67. Beyond the gate you will find happiness and rest, and there is comfort in the thought that you will remain close to us.

GASSON

Grace Edith Gasson of Canterbury passed away peacefully after a short illness on 5th April 2008. Loving mum to Jan, Sue and Dee and much loved Nan to Mark, Richenda, Lee, Nathaniel, Luke and Jason. She will be very sadly missed by all who knew her. The funeral took place at Barham on Friday 11th April. If desired donations to Cancer Research UK.

GRANT

Robert Allan Grant of Dunkirk passed away peacefully on 9th April 2008 at the Pilgrims Hospice, Canterbury. A beloved husband and loving father who will be very sadly missed. Funeral enquiries to John Kemp, St Dunstons, Canterbury. Family flowers only but if desired donations to the Pilgrims Hospice, Canterbury.

HEWITT

Olive Hewitt of Herne Bay (formerly of Canterbury) passed away after a long period of ill health, on 12th April 2008, at Elliot House Herne Bay. Re-united with her beloved husband Alf and two sons Bill and Peter. Loving mum to Helen and Maureen. A much loved grandmother and great grandmother. Rest in peace mum. For funeral details please contact Welch.

HINDS

John Frederick Hinds of Ditton passed away peacefully after a long illness on 10th April 2008, aged 69.

HOBBS

David Eric Hobbs of Ditton passed away peacefully after a short illness on 5th April 2008, aged 55.

HOLLIS

Elsie died on 11th April 2008 at Kent and Sussex Hospital. Sadly missed by Family and Friends.

HOWES

Mary Dorothy Formerly of Hythe Kent passed away on the 11th April 2008.

HUBBLE

Ann Louise Hubble of Boughton under Blean, formerly of Dover, passed away suddenly after a short illness on 13th April 2008. Beloved wife of Bob and much

loved mum to daughters Amber and Tiffany. Loving Nan to Aaron and Casey. She will be very sadly missed. Funeral enquiries to Hogben.

LEADBEATTER

Kate passed away peacefully after a long illness on the 9th April 2008. Missed by all.

LOVETT

Alan Douglas Lovett of Hawkinge passed away peacefully at home on 11th April 2008. A loving husband, much loved dad and Pops. He will be very sadly missed. Funeral enquiries to Chittendens of Folkestone.

MONK

Lillian May who slipped away 13/04/2008 aged 98 years. A dearly loved Mum, Sister, Auntie and Granny to her grandchildren and great grandchildren. She will be sadly missed by all her family and many caring friends. Funeral service at the Tunbridge Wells Crematorium Monday 21st April at 9.30. Flowers or donations to the British Heart Foundation may be sent C/o Southborough Funeral Service, 126a London Road, Southborough, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN4 0PL. Tel 01892 539744.

NORTON

Helen passed away on 12 April 2008 after a long illness. She will be greatly missed by family and friends. Donations for Pilgrims Hospice to Farriers of Dover.

PALMER

James Francis Palmer of Lower Hardres passed away peacefully on 9th April 2008. Much loved by family and friends. The funeral was held at St Marys Church, Lower Hardres on Thursday 17th April 2008.

PAYTON

Marcia Vera Eugenie Payton of Whitstable passed away peacefully on 9th April 2008. A much loved mother and grandmother who will be greatly missed.

ROBBINS

Patricia Robbins of Canterbury (formerly of Tunbridge Wells) passed away after a long illness on 8th April 2008. The funeral took place at Barham on Friday 18th April 2008.

SEXTON

James Sexton of Larkfield passed away peacefully on 11th April 2008. Enquiries to Doves Funerals at Larkfield 01732 871188.

THOMAS

Frank Arthur William Thomas of Boughton, passed away suddenly on 5th April 2008. Loving dad to Pat, Ann, Margaret, Michael, Fay, Gill, Pamela and Martin. A much loved grandad and great grandad. Reunited with his beloved Betty. The funeral was held on Friday 18th April at Love Lane Cemetery.

TWYMAN

Margaret, aged 84, passed away peacefully on 6th April 2008 at The Brabourne Care Centre Ashford. The family wish to thank the staff of the Brabourne Care Centre for their kindness and care in looking after Margaret, who will be sadly missed.

WARNETT

Emily Marion (Peggy) died peacefully in her own bed on 8th April 2008 aged 94. Sadly missed by all her family and friends.

WATTS

Thelma Watts passed away peacefully on 4th April 2008. A loved one is not gone, until they are forgotten. And to live in the hearts of those left behind is to live forever.

WEIR

Ada Weir of Dover died after a long illness, born with dignity and cheerfulness, on 9th April 2008. Loving mother, grandmother and great grandmother. Re-united with John. The funeral took place at Barham on Wednesday April 16th.

WELLS

Raymond Alfred Wells of Birchington passed away peacefully after a short illness on 11th April 2008, aged 76.

WHIBLEY

Colin Whibley of Maidstone died peacefully at home on 15th April 2008. Funeral service at Vinters Crematorium at 12.30pm on 23rd April 2008. Enquiries to Birds Funeral Directors on 01622 692949.

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PROPERTY NEWS

House price drop may help us out in the long run

A LEADING economist claims that a small drop in property prices will not be a disaster and may even act as a stabilising influence on the market.

Liam Halligan, of Property Capital Management, said recent reports of a dip in the market should not start alarm bells ringing across the spectrum from homeowners to estate agents.

Instead he claimed any such drop would go some way towards rectifying what is an over-inflated market.

Mr Halligan said: "Should prices flat line, or even fall slightly for a year or two, that would be a good thing – purging the system of excess."

Other analysts have pointed to the fact that a fall – as opposed to the intense growth the market has seen in recent years – could bring balance to the economy with regard to property.

They also say investors could find themselves benefiting from long term stability in a market which historically has periodically corrected itself to maintain equilibrium.

Save more money when you invest in going green

FAMILIES who buy new homes built by private developers over the next two years could be paying £11,000 to install eco-friendly gadgets in their properties – or face higher fuel bills than those that are built to tough new environmental standards.

New regulations introduced this month require all new homes built by housing associations to become more energy efficient – and slash carbon emissions by 25 per cent. But the Government has given private developers until 2010 to meet the standard.

This means that people who buy in the private sector need to either splash out cash for improvements or face the prospect of long term outlay on bills.

Experts calculate a family that buys a home built by the private sector until April 2010 will have to spend £1,477 more on their gas and electricity over the first 20 years than those living in social housing.



TRANSFORMATION: The seaside theme used in this house transforms the look of the rooms, adding colour and shape without being too overbearing

You just need a theme

■ BY NICK AMES

INTERIOR design can transform a home into a vibrant living space reflecting the character and personalities of the people who live there.

TV shows and style magazines emphasise the expertise necessary to create a stunning living space – but one developer is keen to share knowledge with homeowners looking to redesign their environment without spending a fortune.

Bryant Homes' brand new Conway show-home at its Herne Bay development has recently opened and members of the design team Interior Directions spoke about how they approached designing the wall-to-wall effect.

Jerome O'Shea, managing director of the company, said: "When you're planning to decorate the first step is to think of a theme. Here at Herne Bay we plumped for the most obvious one – seaside living.

"Once you have your theme, think around it. "Perhaps gather some inspirational images or colours and put together a mood board so you know which direction you're headed in.

"We wanted a vibrant, fresh, contemporary look suitable for young couples or families who might buy a three bedroom home.

"We picked blue and white as the main colours and traditional images of the seaside provided the accent colours – Punch and Judy,

deckchairs, beach huts. We wanted a really bright, fresh, fun look."

But Mr O'Shea emphasised restraint is as important as creativity when it comes to creating a stylish living space – too many colour clashes and accessories can spoil the effect.

He said: "It would be too much to have these colours all round the house. You have to think about light and shade, and creating restful spaces is just as important. To do this we brought in the natural tones you'd find in a seascape – think sand, sea, sky and driftwood.

"The trick with accessories is don't go overboard.

"Pick a few key items which fit with your theme or tone with your colour scheme. Most importantly you must like looking at them, because you've got to live with them."

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 • Dining Room • Cellar
 ref: 527270258

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**HAZEBROUCK ROAD**

• Terraced House • Two Bedrooms • Gas
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 ref: 527271191

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**HAZEBROUCK ROAD**

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 House • Lounge/dining Room
 ref: 527163634

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**SOUTH ROAD**

• Terraced House • Currently 9 Bedrooms
 • Over 4 Floors • Currently Used As A Home
 ref: 527256172

£399,995 FAVERSHAM (01795 536955)

OARE

**COLEGATES ROAD**

• Village Location • Terrace House
 • Two Bedrooms • Lounge/Dining Room
 ref: 527262600

£159,950 FAVERSHAM (01795 536955)

FAVERSHAM

**LOWER ROAD**

• Semi Detached House • Three Bedrooms
 • Drive • Rear Garden With Work Shop
 ref: 527237831

£147,950 FAVERSHAM (01795 536955)

IWADE

**FERRY ROAD**

• Detached House • Three Bedrooms
 • Lounge • Dining Room
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 Fields Location • Lounge & Dining Area
 ref: 527306262

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LYNSTED

**ST. PAULS COURT**

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 Location • Seadlyn Retreat Development
 ref: 527269973

£450,000 SITTINGBOURNE (01795 429771)

KEMSLEY

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• End Of Terrace House • Popular Location
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£170,000 SITTINGBOURNE (01795 429771)

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**SURF CRESCENT**

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£399,950 SHEERNESS (01795 668373)

MINSTER ON SEA

**PORTER CLOSE**

• Extended End Terrace House • 5 Bedrooms
 • Lounge • Fitted Kitchen/Dining Room
 ref: 527250770

£219,500 SHEERNESS (01795 668373)

MINSTER ON SEA

**NOREEN AVENUE**

• Semi Detached House • Three
 Bedrooms • Lounge • Kitchen/Diner
 ref: 527253650

£167,500 SHEERNESS (01795 668373)

MINSTER ON SEA

**NOREEN AVENUE**

• End Of Terrace House • 3 Bedrooms
 • Kitchen/Diner • Lounge/Dining Room
 ref: 527248231

£160,000 SHEERNESS (01795 668373)

MINSTER ON SEA

**HIGHFIELD ROAD**

• Detached Bungalow • Two Bedrooms
 • Lounge • Double Glazed Conservatory
 ref: 527139159

£225,000 SHEERNESS (01795 668373)

QUEENBOROUGH

**CHALK ROAD**

• Extended End Of Terrace • 4 Bedrooms
 • Lounge/Dining Room • 2nd Reception
 ref: 527213838

£179,000 SHEERNESS (01795 668373)

WARDEN

**KNOLL WAY**

• Detached Bungalow • Three Bedrooms
 • Lounge/Dining Room • Fitted Kitchen
 ref: 527213234

£175,000 SHEERNESS (01795 668373)

MINSTER ON SEA

**BUCKTHORNE ROAD**

• Modern Detached House • Over Three
 Floors • Five Bedrooms • Two Receptions
 ref: 526921779

£292,000 SHEERNESS (01795 668373)

MINSTER ON SEA

**NOREEN AVENUE**

• Semi Detached House • Three Bedrooms
 • 2 Receptions • 100ft Approx Rear Garden
 ref: 527134026

£162,500 SHEERNESS (01795 668373)

MINSTER ON SEA

**SCRAPSGATE ROAD**

• Detached 1930's Style Bungalow
 • Two Double Bedrooms • Conservatory
 ref: 527148737

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MINSTER ON SEA

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 Bedrooms • First Floor Lounge With Balcony
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BROOMFIELD, HERNE BAY £165,000

Vacant modern semi-detached 2 bedroom bungalow located on the outskirts of the town close to 'bus route to town. Features gas central heating and some double glazing.



EDDINGTON, HERNE BAY £249,950

Modern detached 3 bedroom family house, set back off the main road in a private access road on the south side of town, 'bus stop at hand, offered with no forward chain. Features gas central heating and double glazing.



WEST CENTRAL, HERNE BAY £275,000

This 3/4 bedroom detached house is situated on the west side of Herne Bay convenient for local shops and on the bus route to Whitstable and Canterbury. Herne Bay Railway Station is about 1/2 a mile away. The property has UPVC double glazing and gas fired central heating.



SOUTH, HERNE BAY £195,000

A three bedroom semi detached house on the borders of Herne Village. Situated in a cul-de-sac location with views to the west across Herne Bay. There is a southerly facing side garden. Gas central heating.

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MOTORS NEWS



New Jeep Cherokee goes back to basics

JEEP is recreating a winning formula with the all-new Cherokee due in May, using a look that launched the same model and the brand here in 1993.

Estate car capacity was married to rugged genuine off-road ability in the best Jeep tradition and at an affordable price. The new car is said to retain the same selling points while being better on-road.

The new Cherokee features the familiar 2.8-litre Mercedes-Benz diesel that has enabled Jeep and other Chrysler Group brands to grow UK sales.

This engine is mated with 'Selec-Trac II' full-time four-wheel drive plus a six-speed manual or five-speed automatic gearbox.



Why Insignia labels Vauxhall's ambition

VAUXHALL'S intention to attack premium car makers has gained weight from the unveiling of the stunning Vectra replacement – the Insignia.

Due in October, the new car looks muscular and purposeful with a coupé-style roofline and distinctive design line running from behind the front wheel.

Ironically, it is not only the likes of Audi and BMW who will be curious to see if the Insignia is as good as it looks; Ford also responded to the premium threat by launching an upmarket Mondeo replacement in 2007.



Clever new generation Peugeot estate/MPV

PEUGEOT has announced attractive pricing for the latest of its distinctive SW line of estate car cum MPVs.

The new 308SW starts at £14,395 and carries over while improving hallmarks of the 307SW it replaces, such as a 27 per cent larger panoramic glass roof available on higher spec models.

There is also the usual wide array of diesel engines and certain models will be available with Michelin energy-saving tyres able to boost fuel economy by up to a fifth.



BUILT TO LAST: With its sporty looks and a seven-year/100,000-mile warranty, the new Kia Proceed is well worth a look and is proof of the Korean marque's fast-improving status

Never mind the width – 'Proceed' to the quality

NEVER mind the quality, feel the width summarised the first Kia I ever road tested.

That previous generation Rio was crude and even broke down after I had filed the story.

How far the Korean marque has come in the five years since then; this week's road test Proceed not only feels bulletproof, but is backed by a seven-year/100,000-mile warranty, unique to selected Kias.

OK, Kia simply looked and learned from the best European marques, but the speed and execution has been awesome; the Proceed is styled and engineered to European standards and built in a state-of-the-art Slovakian factory.

This three-door hatch is based on the Ceed five-door launched last year, but justifies its sportier name by being slightly longer and lower, enhanced visually by a high waist, longer side doors, dramatic body line and tailgate spoiler.

However, it retains the airiness and boot of the Ceed, though a fixed rear seat cushion denies the flat load floor of the parent

ROAD TEST

CHEVROLET CAPTIVA

BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

car, even if the 60/40 split backrest remains.

The seats are well designed and interior materials, fit and finish are better than most mainstream rivals, yet the Kia still offers superb value – from £11,795 including air con, alloys and iPod/MP3 player compatibility as standard, plus that 'buy and forget warranty'.

We put the car's sporting looks to the test by climbing into the current Proceed flagship, the 138bhp 2.0-litre diesel Sport (£15,495), which has plenty of low down clout and can set the front wheels scrabbling if you aim for the car's claimed 10-second 0-60mph time, but it can be raucous and I prefer the all-round appeal of Kia's smaller 1.6-diesel unit.

This 2.0-litre Proceed can be hustled though, even if it does push its nose wider on bends and the ride can get fidgety. Used sensibly though, this model is refined at speed and frugal – it can average 50mpg – helped by a smooth six-speed gearbox, while CO2 emissions of only 149 grams should appeal to the fleet market. A hot hatch 'halo model' is also said to be in the pipeline.



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USED CAR ROUND-UP: OUR PICK FROM A KEY SECTOR

SMALL MPVs

SMALL MPVs have become hot property in the used car market as manageable family holdalls that are flexible and cheap to run. Some contenders have the drawback of being rather bloated in style with a rolling gait on the bends, but our choice here offer all the space that buyers demand plus decent driving manners and a spread of good engine options, including quality diesels. The Peugeot 206SW – no longer sold new – also shows that small MPVs do not have to be dull one box or 'monocab' designs either.

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VAUXHALL MERIVA



NOT quite as influential as Vauxhall's bigger Zafira perhaps, but the Meriva is a popular used buy with families seeking a manageable yet capacious family holdall. The car also drives and handles well and offers a higher driving position than equivalent family hatches and estates, without being ridiculously lofty. Add Vauxhall's usual 'Flex' system interior features, a reputation for reliability and a good range of engines including diesels and you can see why Meriva used prices can be high.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

FORD FOCUS C-MAX



HISTORY will show this was a pivotal model for Ford. The C-Max has proved to be the first 'driver's MPV', even if it was criticised for lacking the seven seats of the rival Vauxhall Zafira. However, the virtues of smart looks, excellent build and excellent yet affordable high-spec models can be added to good handling. With jointly developed and smoother diesels from Ford's partnership with Peugeot-Citroen, the C-Max can also compete with anything for smoothness, economy and power.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

PEUGEOT 206SW



HERE is an MPV for people who do not want a car that looks like an MPV. Peugeot has a recent tradition for developing SW models that are really blown up estates with the space and versatility to attack rival MPVs without the penalty of being unwieldy or ugly. The 206SW is affordable and has all the handling panache of the 206 hatch – Peugeot's best-selling model ever – and can be bought with one of the French marque's enviable diesel engines.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

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ALFA ROMEO

147, JTD 02, alloy wheels, anti-lock brakes, climate control, drivers airbag, electric windows, passenger airbag, power steering, side airbags, split/folding rear seats, tinted glass, traction control, trip computer, grey, 8000 miles, £1495, Thames Group Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

147 1.6, T Spark, 2001, red, 50685 miles, £395, Morris Forshaw, Maidstone, 01622 750 442 (TRADE)

156, 1.4 Jtd Turismo 4dr Saloon, immobiliser, electric mirrors, climate control, alloy wheels, metallic grey, 49000 miles, £590, Kent TD Centre, Maidstone, 01622 750022 (TRADE)

AUDI

A2, SE 5dr, remote central locking, alarm, air conditioning, climate control, cd player, radio, twin air bags, abs, power steering, cloth upholstery, alloy wheels, blue, 56300 miles, £595, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

A3, 1.6 Sport Fsi 5dr, alarm, immobiliser, remote central locking, full leather, centre armrest, head restraints, lumbar support, sports seats, adjustable steering column, power steering, stability control, traction control, trip computer, abs, multiple airbags, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, electric front windows, climate control, multi-disc cd player, uk specification, uk supplied, 17" alloys, grey, 22067 miles, £12650, Lifestyle Ford Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 0844 8446514 (TRADE)

A3, 2.0 TDI (140) Sport 3dr, alarm, immobiliser, remote central locking, colour coded interior, adjustable steering column, power steering, stability control, trip computer, abs, multiple airbags, colour coded body, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, rear spoiler, rear wash/wipe, electric front windows, electric mirrors, dual climate zones, cd player, alloy wheels, metallic grey, 64000 miles, £10490, AR Cars, Kent, 01342 851122 (TRADE)

A4, 2.0 SE, 2001 manual g/bx, stunning met diamond black coachwork with contrasting cream fleck trim, absolutely mint condition bargain at £5995 now £5395, diamond black, 49000 miles, £5395, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 242444 (TRADE)

A4, 1.9tdi 130 se estate, 2003, blue m with grey cloth, 67000 miles, £9950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

BMW

1 SERIES, 120d SE 5dr, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, alloy wheels, climate control, power assisted steering, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, traction control, insurance group 14, black, 27511 miles, £15994, SMC Mitsubishi Sittingbourne, Sittingbourne, 0844 5762476 (TRADE)

3, 2002, grey, 62684 miles, £8955, WJ King Vauxhall, Bromley, 020 8464 3456 (TRADE)

3 SERIES, - 316i SE 3dr, silver, 2003, 34976 miles, manual, petrol, 3 doors, 2 previous owners, silver, £7995, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

3 SERIES, 318i CI Sport 2dr, abs, air bag, twin air bags, side air bags, alarm, traction control, central locking, air conditioning, cruise control, electric front windows, height adjustable seat, retractable headrests, rear headrests, rear armrest, adjustable steering column, multi-function steering wheel, power steering, trip computer, quick-clear screen, metallic paintwork, automatic electric windows, climate control, cd player, stereo, steering wheel audio controls, radio, 18" alloys, met blue, 73020 miles, £11799, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

3 SERIES, 318i SE 3dr, abs, air bag, twin air bags, side air bags, alarm, traction control, air conditioning, cruise control, electric front windows, electric windows, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, front fog lamps, parking sensor, alloy wheels, grey met, 32272 miles, £10999, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

318, 2003, mauritus blue, 25478 miles, £10995, WJ King Vauxhall, Bromley, 020 8464 3456 (TRADE)

320, 2.0 Td SE 6 Speed, 2004, black, 51000 miles, £3995, Morris Forshaw, Maidstone, 01622 750 442 (TRADE)

CITROEN

C3, 1.4i SX 5dr, 2004, 1.4i sx 5dr hatch, blue, 28000 miles, £6295, Wilmoths Ashford, Ashford, 01233 640100 (TRADE)

C3, 1.4i SX 5dr Auto, 2004, 1.4i sx 5dr hatch, silver, 30770 miles, £6495, Wilmoths Folkestone, Folkestone, 01303 245 588 (TRADE)

C3, 1.6i 16V SX 5dr Auto, 2007, 1.6i 16v sx 5dr auto hatch, silver, 1000 miles, £995, Wilmoths Folkestone, Folkestone, 01303 245 588 (TRADE)

C3, 1.4i Cool 2dr, 2007, 1.4i cool 2dr pluriel convertible special eds, silver, 1000 miles, £945, Wilmoths Folkestone, Folkestone, 01303 245 588 (TRADE)

C3, 1.4 HDi 16V SX 5dr, 2004, 1.4 hdi 16v sx 5dr diesel hatch, blue, 63973 miles, £2650, Wilmoths Folkestone, Folkestone, 01303 245 588 (TRADE)

C3, 1.4i Cool 5dr, 1.4i cool 5dr hatch special edition, arctic steel, 1000 miles, £7995, Masters Citroen, Penge, 0208 659 0909 (TRADE)

C3, 1.6i 16V SX 5dr Auto, 2007, 1.6i 16v sx 5dr auto hatch, arctic steel, 4000 miles, £945, Masters Citroen, Penge, 0208 659 0909 (TRADE)

FIAT

BRAVO, 150, air conditioning, alloy wheels, anti-lock brakes, drivers airbag, electric windows, metallic paint, passenger airbag, power steering, side airbags, split/folding rear seats, tinted glass, traction control, trip computer, symphony blue, 10 miles, £11995, Thames Group Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

BRAVO, Dynamic, alloy wheels, anti-lock brakes, climate control, drivers airbag, electric windows, passenger airbag, side airbags, split/folding rear seats, tinted glass, traction control, trip computer, metallic paint, blue, 7000 miles, £11995, Thames Group Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

PUNTO, ELX 16V, 2000, met green, £2495, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

PUNTO, Active 1.2, 2003, silver, 45000 miles, £2995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

FORD

FIESTA, 1.4i Style 5dr (2005 -), 15/03/2007, cd player abs alarm driver airbag power steering immobiliser electric windows, black, 8924 miles, £7995, Wilmoths Ashford, 01233 504400 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Zetec 3dr (Climate) (2005 -), 03/09/2007, cd player abs driver airbag power steering immobiliser electric windows, black, 7031 miles, £8999, Invicta Motors, Ramsgate, 01843 853555 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Zetec 5dr (2002 - 2005), 17/07/2004, cd player driver airbag electric windows, silver, 31968 miles, £5999, Invicta Motors, Canterbury, 08444 992321 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.6 Zetec S 3dr (2005 -), 06/04/2006, cd player abs leather hood cover driver airbag power steering immobiliser electric windows, black, 32914 miles, £7999, Invicta Motors, Ashford, 01233 504400 (TRADE)

KA, 1.3i Style 3dr, immobiliser, cloth upholstery, power steering, abs, air bag, uk specification, uk supplied, head restraints, folding rear seats, metallic paintwork, panther black, 6000 miles, £5400, Lifestyle Ford Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 0844 8446514 (TRADE)

HONDA

CR-V, 2.0 i-Vtec Sport 5dr, cosmic grey, 2006, 5840 miles, manual, petrol, 5 doors, 1 previous owners, grey, £13955, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

JAGUAR

S-TYPE, V6 Auto, Isot3 ksx, remote central locking, remote alarm, front fog lamps, parking sensor, rear headrests, full leather, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, electric seats, electric windows, electric mirrors, electric handbrake, traction control, cd player, radio, air conditioning, climate control, cruise control, twin air bags, curtain airbags, abs, trip computer, centre armrest, alloy wheels, blue, 58700 miles, £9995, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

JEEP

GRAND CHEROKEE, 1997, green, 180000 miles, £2995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

KIA

CARENS, 2.0 CRDi LE Automatic Diesel, 2006, insurance group 9 abs air conditioning body power steering radio/cd rear electric windows remote central locking roof rails steering wheel rake adjustment, cool silver, 17780 miles, £8495, Masters Bromley Kia, Beckenham, 0208 6123 6133 (TRADE)

MERCEDES-BENZ

A CLASS, A140 Classic, 1496077, remote alarm, remote central locking, rear headrests, abs, multiple airbags, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, electric windows, blue, 49000 miles, £3495, DW Leisure Mercedes Benz Specialists, Welling, 0208 8548037 (TRADE)

MITSUBISHI

COLT, 1.3 Elegance Automatic, 2005, abs, conditioning alloy wheels audio control body coloured bumpers central locking drivers airbag electric/clock mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights half leather seats heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd rear electric windows remote central locking side airbags steering wheel rake adjustment trip computer, steel grey, 950 miles, £7750, Masters Group Mitsubishi Bromley, Beckenham, 0208 6587122 (TRADE)

COLT, 1.3i C22, 2006, abs air conditioning alloy wheels audio remote control body coloured bumpers central locking drivers airbag folding rear seats front height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser radio/cd steering wheel rake adjustment trip computer, lunar silver, 12000 miles, £6499, Masters Group Mitsubishi Bromley, Beckenham, 0208 6587122 (TRADE)

NISSAN

ALMERA, Sport, 2000 x, 2000 x-reg 75,000 miles, taxed until end June, met until september, nearly new front tyres, power steering, abs, air conditioning, central locking, electric front windows, a very reliable car which has not let me down, selling due to company car. contact rob on 01634 232929, metallic red, £2200, Gillingham, 01634232929 (PRIVATE)

PRIMERA, 1.8i S 5dr, abs, air bag, twin air bags, side air bags, alarm, central locking, climate control, electric front windows, electric windows, cd player, rear wash/wipe, alloy wheels, sz blue met, 25432 miles, £7999, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

PEUGEOT

107, Urban, anti-lock brakes, central locking, drivers airbag, electric windows, passenger airbag, power steering, side airbags, split/folding rear seats, trip computer, black, 9195 miles, £5795, Thames Group Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

RENAULT

MEGANE, Scenic Expression+ 16v, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, cd player, air conditioning, electric windows, electric mirrors, beigebuff, 55000 miles, £3999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

MEGANE, Extreme 16v 3dr, central locking, immobiliser, power steering, cloth upholstery, head restraints, air bag, colour coded body, electric windows, cd player, stereo, red, 40000 miles, £4999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

MEGANE, Extreme dCi 3dr, central locking, air conditioning, power steering, air bag, cloth upholstery, head restraints, electric mirrors, cd player, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, 15" alloys, blue, 74000 miles, £4499, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

MEGANE, 1.5 dCi 106 Oasis 5dr hatch special eds, blue, 33034 miles, £6495, Masters Citroen, Penge, 0208 659 0909 (TRADE)

MEGANE, 1.9 Dci 120 Dynamique 5dr, blue, 2003, 44000 miles, manual, diesel, 5 doors, 2 previous owners, blue, £5489, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

MEGANE, 1.6i DYN, finished in silver with interior manual, silver, 12000 miles, £7995, caffyns chevrolet t wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

TOYOTA

AYGO, 1.0 WT-i + 5dr, abs, air bag, twin air bags, side air bags, electric front windows, cd player, rear wash/wipe, central locking, immobiliser, power steering, metallic paintwork, radio, stereo, astrol grey met, 9968 miles, £6999, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

CELICA, WT-i, central locking, immobiliser, cloth upholstery, air conditioning, power steering, abs, air bag, head restraints, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, cd player, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, electric windows, 15" alloys, aluminium silver, 50000 miles, £7699, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

YARIS, GS 3dr, immobiliser, cloth upholstery, head restraints, power steering, electric windows, air bag, stereo, metallic paintwork, colour coded body, rear wash/wipe, blue, 70000 miles, £3999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

VAUXHALL

ASTRA, 2005, 3x3 point rear seat belts abs cloth seat trim drivers airbag folding rear seats front electric windows front head restraints height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser isofix child seat anchor points pasenger airbag airbag rear headrests rear wiper remote central locking service indicator side airbags space saver spare wheel steel wheels steering wheel rake adjustment steering wheel reach adjustment trip computer, ultra blue, 27515 miles, £6995, WJ King Vauxhall, Dartford, 01322 227581 (TRADE)

ASTRA, 2005, 3x3 point rear seat belts abs electric door mirrors front electric windows front head restraints heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser isofix child seat anchor points pasenger airbag trip computer, star silver, 35205 miles, £6495, WJ King Vauxhall, Gravesend, 01474 565656 (TRADE)

VOLKSWAGEN

BEETLE, 8v 3dr, front fog lamps, remote central locking, alarm, rear headrests, height adjustable seat, abs, power steering, electric front windows, electric mirrors, multi-disc cd player, cloth upholstery, alloy wheels, blue, 58300 miles, £4995, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

BEETLE, 8v 3dr, rear headrests, remote central locking, alarm, centre armrest, traction control, air conditioning, electric front windows, radio cassette, twin air bags, electric mirrors, abs, power steering, multi-disc cd player, cloth upholstery, alloy wheels, blue, 60700 miles, £5995, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

BEETLE, 1.9 TDI 3dr, abs, air bag, twin air bags, side air bags, alarm, traction control, central locking, air conditioning, electric front windows, electric mirrors, shadow blue met, 11893 miles, £11999, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

GOLF, 1.9 TDI (100) PD 5dr, immobiliser, remote alarm, rd, cloth upholstery, head restraints, folding rear seats, adjustable steering column, pas, trip computer, abs, multiple airbags, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, automatic electric windows, electric mirrors, air conditioning, cd player, radio, stereo, alloy wheels, aluminium silver, 59000 miles, £5990, Kent TD Centre, Maidstone, 01622 750022 (TRADE)

VOLVO

C70, 2.0 T 2dr, abs, air bag, side air bags, alarm, climate control, cruise control, electric front windows, cd player, electric mirrors, front fog lamps, headlamp wash/wipe, immobiliser, central locking, remote central locking, full leather, centre armrest, head restraints, height

adjustable seat, lumbar support, rear armrest, rear headrests, adjustable steering column, automatic electric windows, power hood, electric windows, air conditioning, dual climate zones, stereo, radio, radio cassette, 17" alloys, blue, 45684 miles, £7495, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

S60, SE D5, remote alarm, leather, head restraints, pas, abs, air bag, colour coded body, met, cd player, radio, immobiliser, rear armrest, side air bags, 16" alloys, grey met, 75000 miles, £10499, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

S60, 2.0 T 2dr 4dr Auto, silver, 2003, 45120 miles, auto, petrol, 4 doors, 2 previous owners, silver, £6950, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

V40, S, remote central locking, remote alarm, rear headrests, height adjustable seat, e/hw, cd player, a/c, adjustable steering, pas, twin air bags, abs, alloys, silver, 38000 miles, £4495, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

V50, 1.8 S, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, colour coded interior, centre armrest, head restraints, height adjustable seat, folding rear seats, rear armrest, rear headrests, stability control, abs, child locks, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, roof rails, electric mirrors, electric windows, climate control, dual climate zones, cd player, radio, alloy wheels, metallic blue, 74000 miles, £7990, AR Cars, Kent, 01342 851122 (TRADE)

V70, 2.4 (140 bhp) SE Estate 5d 2435cc (2000), 51, metallic blue full leather trim, ideal work horse, blue, miles, £5500.00, Bob Fisher Garage, Ashford, 01303 814151 (TRADE)

V70, 05 Awd S, half leather, remote alarm, remote central locking, colour coded interior, centre armrest, rear headrests, adjustable steering column, traction control, multi-function steering wheel, cruise control, power steering, abs, child locks, multiple airbags, colour coded body, front fog lamps, rear wash/wipe, roof rails, electric windows, electric mirrors, dual climate zones, cd player, radio, trip computer, auto-dip rearview, alloy wheels, 4x4, red, 69000 miles, £11490, AR Cars, Kent, 01342 851122 (TRADE)

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Telephone: 01227 819464
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St John's RC Comprehensive School
Rochester Road, Gravesend, Kent DA12 2JW
Headteacher: A J Stanley BEd M.A. (Ed)
Tel: 01474 534718 Fax: 01474 563763
e-mail: office@st-johns-gravesend.kent.sch.uk



Teacher Training

Have you, as a graduate, considered becoming a teacher, which currently pays £14,751 during training?

St John's Catholic Comprehensive School, in collaboration with Canterbury Christ Church University, is inviting applicants to join the Graduate Teacher Programme from September 2008 in:

- English • ICT • Music • Mathematics
- Science • Religious Education

Further details, including an application form, are available from the school's website, www.st-johns-gravesend.kent.sch.uk or from Mike O'Shea, e-mail: moshea@st-johns-gravesend.kent.sch.uk

The closing date for applications is **Wednesday, 7 May.**

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To be eligible to apply, you must have a good general level of education (GCSE or above) and a relevant education in biosciences would be advantageous.

You should be organised, have excellent communication skills, attention to detail with both good written and verbal skills. You will be able to accurately follow procedures and adhere to all Health and Safety guidelines. You must be able to adapt to change efficiently and learn new techniques and procedures rapidly.

Please apply in writing with a current CV and details of your salary expectations to the HR Department, Thermo Fisher Scientific, Clipper Boulevard West, Crossways, Dartford, Kent, DA2 6PT or e mail it to remel.recruitment@thermofisher.com

The closing date for application is Midday Friday 25 April 2008.

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council is striving to improve the services it provides and is looking for positive, committed people with a 'can-do' attitude to join our skilled team.

Civil Enforcement Officers x 5

£15,470 - £17,781pa

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If you:

- have experience of a front-line, public-oriented service, or of local authority parking operations
- have the ability to respond well to challenging situations
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- have good communication and interpersonal skills
- have a full driving licence.

then this could be the opportunity for you.

Closing date: 9th May 2008

Interviews: w/c 19th May 2008

For an application form and information pack please visit our website www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk or contact the HR Department.

post: Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 1RS
e-mail: personnel@tunbridgewells.gov.uk
phone: 01892 554149 (24 hour answerphone) or 01892 526121 ext 3380. Please state which job/position you are applying for.

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Project Worker

Starting salary £17,842 with progression through contribution related pay to £19,572 pro rata
Term-time only, initially funded till 31st August 2009
The Launch Pad, Ramsgate

Do you have experience of and commitment to working with young people?

We are seeking to appoint a project worker who is bright, full of ideas and enjoys using their initiative, to join our dedicated and highly effective staff team.

You will work at The Launch Pad supporting pupils who are serving fixed term exclusions from primary schools with a range of behaviour and learning needs. Experience of working in a school environment and/or working with pupils with social, emotional and behavioural needs would be an advantage.

The Launch Pad is funded by the Thanet Behaviour Improvement Programme (BIP) schools and currently serves 18 Thanet primary schools. It is based at the Concorde Youth Centre in Ramsgate. The work also involves going into the schools to participate in reintegration, follow-up and preventative activities.

The post will require working together with a wide range of agencies and service providers to ensure the needs of the participating young people are met.

This post is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Application to the Criminal Records Bureau.

To apply, visit www.kent.gov.uk/jobs

Alternatively, please email recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk or call 0845 8247 904.

Please quote reference number CFE/o8/0117

Closing date: Midday, 1 May 2008.



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Area Team Leader - Primary Mental Health Project Manager

Starting salary £26,159 with progression through contribution related pay to £29,920 per annum
Swale

Do you have experience of and commitment to working with young people, and could you support and offer guidance to other colleagues?

We are seeking to appoint a Team Leader who is bright, full of ideas and enjoys using their initiative, to join our dedicated and highly effective staff team.

The primary function of this role is to establish and support Kent Safe Schools Primary Mental Health Project, a new initiative targeted at young people in Swale schools and working closely with teachers, Health professional and CAMHS workers. You would work with multi-agencies, schools, parents, children and young people with the intention of making schools a safer environment for young people, and to facilitate the referral of young people through schools into mental health support programmes.

In addition to the Project Manager duties, the Area Team Leader will be expected to work closely with all agencies, schools and communities to identify networking opportunities and establish firm partnerships. You will take a shared responsibility for supporting other staff delivering in the same area, with a particular focus on the co-ordination of services, induction and training.

We are looking for applicants with a good understanding of educational issues who possess experience of working with young people, ideally in primary phase. **Ref: CFE/08/0147**

Closing date: Midday, 8th May 2008.

Partnership with Parents

Starting salary £26,159, with progression through contribution related pay to £29,920 per annum (pro rata for temporary post)
Shepway Centre, Maidstone

We are looking to recruit people with exceptional communication skills who are committed to promoting good communication between parents, schools and agencies and increasing parental involvement.

You will need excellent oral and written communication skills, experience of developing partnerships with a wide range of people and experience of working with parents.

Partnership with Parents Development Officer - Parent Forums

Temporary/Secondment opportunity until April 2009

This is an exciting opportunity for someone with the right skills. We have been contracted by the Extended Schools Service to set up Parent Forums in each LCSP/Cluster. Do you have the skills to help us? Experience of managing projects is essential. **Ref: CFE/08/0161**

Partnership with Parents Development Officer

Full time post

This is an exciting opportunity for you to join our team at a time of significant development. We are an arm's length service providing an impartial advice and support service to parents and carers of children with additional needs.

We also work closely with schools, services and agencies to promote parental involvement.

We believe that good communication between all those involved in a child's education is key to good relationships which will help children achieve. Experience of delivering training and knowledge of AEN and SEN processes is essential. **Ref: CFE/08/0162**

Supervision will be provided for both posts.

Closing date for the above two posts: Midday, 8th May 2008.

The above posts are all subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Application to the Criminal Records Bureau.

Personnel Assistant

Starting salary £16,627 with progression through contribution related pay to £18,288 pro rata
Brook House, Whitstable

The Schools' Personnel Service provides a comprehensive personnel service to schools across Kent. This includes giving advice on terms and conditions of employment, producing contracts and liaising with the schools' payroll providers.

We require a part-time Personnel Assistant (job share), working 22 hours per week - Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

We are looking for good team workers, educated to GCSE level or equivalent, to join our busy, hard working and friendly team. A high degree of tact and confidentiality is required as well as an ability to organise and prioritise work; keep calm under pressure and work to deadlines.

Previous personnel experience would be an advantage but not essential, as full training is given. **Ref: CED/08/0049**

Closing date: Midday, 7th May 2008.

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Supply Lecturers

Various hours are available
Salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata pa
Post Ref: Supply

If you are a newly-qualified teacher, or an experienced specialist interested in a second career in Further Education, we are keen to hear from you. This is an exciting opportunity to gain valuable experience in the Further Education sector, supply lecturing offers the possibility of part-time hours fitted around your existing commitments, and according to your own specialist skills, qualifications and experience. A teaching qualification is not always essential, however if you do not hold one then we will provide the appropriate training when you join our team.

We offer a wide range of both vocational and academic courses - to find out whether your skills match any of those on offer, further details can be found at www.cant-col.ac.uk

For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.

The closing date for the above post is Monday 12 May at 12 noon.

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- Well organised with a systematic approach to code writing
- Understanding the importance of development, integration and delivery of code
- Experience with versioning software (Subversion would be an advantage)

Interested? Then please send your CV and covering letter to Holiday Extras, Newingreen, Hythe, Kent CT21 4JF or to recruitment@holidayextras.com

Closing Date: 25 April 2008



Swale Carers Centre

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To apply please contact Sandie Hornby on 01795 583440 or email sandie.swalecarers@tiscali.co.uk

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Required for September 2008 Curriculum Leader, Geography (TLR 2b - £4,037) and Teacher of Science/Health and Social Care

Applications welcome from experienced teachers and NQTs

Any offer of employment for this post will be subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Record Bureau Disclosure. This School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Application forms and further details are available from the School.

Tel: 01634 362746 Email: admin@rsg.org.uk

Closing date: 2nd May 2008



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Account Management Executive - Print Management

We require support staff to work within our busy Account Management team. Experience within the print industry would be a benefit but not essential. Candidates should be IT literate, well organised, good communicators with a proven track record of providing excellent Customer Service.

To apply please contact Sue Hickin via e-mail shickin@citydigital.net tel 0845 262 5555.
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Health, Safety & Environment Trainee

37 hours per week

Starting Salary £17,559 - £18,438 p.a.

A unique opportunity has arisen within Swale Borough Council for a suitable candidate wishing to become a Health & Safety Professional.

Working within the existing Building Maintenance team and assisting the Safety Officer, this is a hands-on role covering all aspects of Health, Safety, Fire and Environmental issues within the Council. No previous Safety knowledge or experience is required as the successful candidate will be given full training and be expected to undertake professional examinations.

The role will involve supporting the Safety Officer and others, carrying out site inspections and helping maintain documentation.

This is an excellent opportunity for someone looking to establish a career within health and safety and the desire to progress to a higher grade (Career Graded) within the organisation following qualification training and experience.

Candidates must hold a minimum of 3 A levels, but preferably a degree or equivalent and previous experience of a work environment such as office or construction administration would be an advantage. Although no prior health and safety knowledge is needed, excellent organisational skills coupled with strong IT skills will be required together with the desire to continue with education.

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For further information contact Human Resources, Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 3HT. Telephone (01795) 417414 (24 hour voice mail) quoting ref: 510AM1.

E-Mail: hr@swale.gov.uk Website: <http://jobs.swale.gov.uk>

Closing date: 6 May 2008 Interviews: 15/16 May 2008



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Full Time Stadium Manager – Julie Rose Stadium – Salary up to £26,044

You will ideally have a keen interest in sport coupled with excellent business skills. Outstanding interpersonal and leadership skills are essential as is the ability to support and motivate staff to meet business objectives. You need to be results driven with exceptionally high standards in service delivery.

You will be responsible for controlling the budget and developing the business further, in particular conferences and functions. You need to enjoy working in a dynamic team environment and have a positive flexible attitude. Hours are 37 per week and will include evenings and weekends.

Full Time Fitness Instructors – Julie Rose Stadium and Stour Centre – Salary up to £12,974

The ideal candidate will hold a Fitness Instructors qualification. Responsibilities include carrying out new member inductions, fitness assessments and programming, membership sales and some reception duties. Hours are up to 37 per week and include evenings and weekends.

Part Time Bookings Officer – Stour Centre – Hourly Rate up to £7.47

You will have a minimum of Maths & English at GCSE or equivalent and be competent in the use of Microsoft packages including Word and Excel. You will be dealing directly with customers in relation to both contract and special bookings ensuring ALT booking regulations and conditions of hire are adhered to at all times.

You will administer the invoice payment and sundry debtor systems therefore knowledge of Sage would be beneficial. Full training will be given.

Hours are 2 days per week from 9am to 5pm.

Casual Customer Service Advisors – Stour Centre – Hourly Rate £5.94

You will have a minimum of Maths & English at GCSE level or equivalent and have good computer skills. Responsibilities will include customer liaison, answering the telephone, cash handling, bookings, sales and presentation.

You must enjoy working with the public, have exceptional customer service skills and be able to work under pressure in a busy environment. Experience in a similar role is desirable.

Part Time Housekeepers – Stour Centre – Hourly Rate up to £6.54

Candidates should have good health and safety knowledge, be familiar with COSHH regulations and have worked within the cleaning industry. The hours are varied and will include evenings and weekends.

For an informal discussion please contact the Stour Centre office on 01233 667121 and ask for Kirsty Ferguson.

Alternatively, you can download an application form from the current vacancies page of our website www.stourcentre.co.uk

Closing date: Friday 25th April 2008.



Social Worker – Specialist Palliative Care Ref: CA0980D

Grade B1/B2. Salary £22,122 – £33,291 per annum,
post qualifying award bar at point 38.

Location: The Wisdom Hospice, Rochester.

Managing your own caseload, you will assess and respond to the needs of adults affected by serious illness, death and bereavement, with opportunities to work with individuals, families (including children) and in groups. As an advocate for service users who are at the end of life, you will provide counselling support, deal with complex practice issues and ethical dilemmas. You will work in a small team of specialist social workers and counsellors who work in partnership with health colleagues to provide high quality, seamless, therapeutic care. The service is provided across the Medway and Swale area, where service users are seen in the community, in the inpatient unit and in day hospice.

Within a supportive work environment, you will receive excellent supervision and development opportunities including the chance to attend relevant internal and external courses.

In addition to a DipSW or CQSW, you must have demonstrable post qualification experience of counselling people affected by serious illness. You must be registered, or in the process of registering with the GSCC. A full driving licence is essential. Any offer of appointment will be subject to a Criminal Records Bureau enhanced disclosure. All posts will be open to part-time and job share applicants unless designated as an exception.

**For an informal discussion, please contact Ann McMurray,
Social Work Manager, Palliative Care or Marilyn Russell,
Senior Practitioner on 01634 830456.**

Closing date: 2 May, 2008.

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PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Teacher

Burnt Oak Primary School

KS2 Teacher
Salary: MPS/UPS
Full Time and Permanent
Required From: 1 September 2008
Closing date: 12 May 2008
To apply/more information
Mrs Gill Perry, Headteacher
Burnt Oak Primary School
Cornwall Road
Gillingham
Kent ME7 1LP
Telephone - (01634) 852991
Fax - 01634 571283
Email
office@burntoak.medway.sch.uk

Fairview Community Primary School

Foundation Teacher
Salary: MPS/UPS
Full time and fixed term
Term of contract: 1 Year
Required From: 1 September 2008
Closing Date: 28 April 2008
To apply/more information
Diana Parker, Office Manager
Fairview Community Primary School
Drewery Drive
Wigmore
Gillingham
Kent ME8 0NU
Telephone - (01634) 338710
Email office@fairviewprimary.medway.sch.uk

Fairview Community Primary School

Year 3
Salary: MPS/UPS
Full time and fixed term
Term of contract: 1 Year
Required From: 1 September 2008
Closing Date: 2 May 2008
To apply/more information
Diana Parker, Office Manager
Fairview Community Primary School
Drewery Drive
Wigmore
Gillingham
Kent ME8 0NU
Telephone - (01634) 338710
Email office@fairviewprimary.medway.sch.uk

Gordon Junior School

KS2 Teacher (Responsibility for Literacy)
Salary: MPS + TLR 2b - £3940
Full Time and Permanent
Required From: 1 September 2008
Closing date: 13 May 2008
To apply/more information
Mrs Ellen Wilson, Headteacher
Gordon Junior School
Gordon Road
Strood
Rochester
Kent ME2 3HQ
Telephone - (01634) 719971
Fax - 01634 290337
Email headteacher@gordon-jun.medway.sch.uk

Hempstead Junior School

Key Stage 2 Teacher
Salary: MPS/UPS
Full Time and Temporary
Term of contract: Maternity Cover
Required From: 1 September 2008
Closing Date: 2 May 2008

To apply/more information

Mr David Bignell, Headteacher
Hempstead Junior School
Birch Grove
Hempstead
Gillingham
Kent ME7 3SD
Telephone - (01634) 371823
Fax - 01634 233328
Email office@hempsteadjunr.medway.sch.uk

Luton Junior School

Class Teacher and Subject Leader for Music
Salary: MPS/UPS
Full Time and Permanent
Required From: 1 September 2008
Closing date: 24 April 2008
To apply/more information
Sheila Scott
Luton Road Junior School
Luton Road
Chatham
Kent ME4 5AW
Telephone - (01634) 844149
Fax - 01634 843582
Email scottss001@medway.org.uk

The Pilgrim School

KS2 Teacher
Salary: MPS/UPS
Full Time and Permanent
Required From: 1 September 2008
Closing date: 2 May 2008
To apply/more information
Mrs D Field, Office Manager
The Pilgrim School
Warwick Crescent
Borstal
Rochester
Kent ME1 3LF
Telephone - (01634) 841873
Email
office@pilgrim.medway.sch.uk

Elaine Primary

KS2 Teacher
Salary: MPS/UPS
Full Time and Permanent
Closing Date: 9th May 2008
Required From: 1 September 2008
To apply/more information
Mrs Lynn Garnham, Headteacher
Elaine Primary
Elaine Avenue
Strood
Kent ME2 2YN
Telephone - (01634) 718057
E-mail Headteacher@elaine.medway.sch.uk

Deputy Headteacher

Fairview Community Primary School

Deputy Headteacher
Salary: L12-L16 +relocation package
Full Time and Permanent
Required From: 1 September 2008
Closing Date: 9 May 2008
To apply/more information
Debbie Willis, Headteacher
Fairview Community Primary School
Drewery Drive
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Gillingham
Kent ME8 0NU
Telephone - (01634) 338710
Email headteacher@fairviewprimary.medway.sch.uk

Elaine Primary

Deputy Headteacher
Salary: L10-L14 (£43,656-£48,138)
Full Time and Permanent
Closing Date: 6th May 2008
Required From: 1 September 2008

To apply/more information

Mrs Lynn Garnham, Headteacher
Elaine Primary
Elaine Avenue
Strood
Kent ME2 2YN
Telephone - (01634) 718057
E-mail Headteacher@elaine.medway.sch.uk

Headteacher

Maundene School
Headteacher
Salary: L20-L26 £55,782-£64,611
Full Time and Permanent

To apply/more information
Sue Bowers, Medway Council
Civic Centre
Strood
Rochester
Kent ME2 4AU
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Email vacancies@medway.gov.uk

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Teacher

Chatham South

Teacher of History
Salary: MPS / UPS
Full Time and Permanent
Required From: 1 September 2008
Closing date: 25 April 2008
To apply/more information
Mrs Maureen Chipperfield
Chatham South
Letchworth Avenue
Chatham
Kent ME4 6NT
Telephone - (01634) 404277
Fax - 01634829010
Email Chipm002@medway.org.uk

Chatham South

Teacher of Mathematics
Salary: MPS / UPS
Full Time and Permanent
Required From: 1 September 2008
Closing date: 25 April 2008
To apply/more information
Mrs Maureen Chipperfield
Chatham South
Letchworth Avenue
Chatham
Kent ME4 6NT
Telephone - (01634) 404277
Fax - 01634829010
Email Chipm002@medway.org.uk

Greenacre School

Teacher of PE
Full Time and permanent
Salary: MPS/UPS
Required From: 1 September 2008
Closing Date: 30 April 2008
To apply/more information
Mr A J Reese, Headteacher
Greenacre School
Bradfields Avenue
Chatham
Kent ME5 0LE
Telephone - (01634) 861593
E-mail
office@greenacre.medway.sch.uk

Medway Community College

Teacher of English
Salary: MPS/UPS
Required From: 1 September 2008
or earlier
Closing date: 25 April 2008
To apply/more information
Katharine Pringle/Julie Jones
Teacher Recruitment Team
Medway Council
Civic Centre
Strood
Kent ME2 4AU
Telephone - (01634) 331292
Email teaching@medway.gov.uk

Medway Community College

Mathematics Teacher
Salary: MPS/UPS
Required From: 1 September 2008
Closing date: 25 April 2008
To apply/more information
Katharine Pringle/Julie Jones
Teacher Recruitment Team
Medway Council
Civic Centre
Strood
Kent ME2 4AU
Telephone - (01634) 331292
Email teaching@medway.gov.uk

Rainham School for Girls

Teacher of Science/ Health and Social Care
Salary: MPS/UPS
Full Time and Permanent
Required From: 1 September 2008
Closing date: 2 May 2008

To apply/more information

Mrs D Francis, Personnel Officer
Rainham School For Girls
Derwent Way, Rainham
Gillingham
Kent ME8 0BX
Telephone - (01634) 362746
Fax - 01634 388334
Email admin@rsg.org.uk

St John Fisher Catholic

Comprehensive School
Teacher of Law
Salary: MPS/UPS
Full time and permanent
Required From: 1 September 2008
Closing Date: 28 April 2008
To apply/more information
Mr D Kelly, Headteacher
St John Fisher Catholic
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Ordnance Street
Chatham
Kent ME4 6DP
Telephone - (01634) 842811
Email headteacher@st-johnfisher.medway.sch.uk

The Hundred of Hoo

Comprehensive
Teacher of Science
Salary: MPS/UPS
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Required From: 1 September 2008
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To apply/more information
Mrs K Cruttenden,
Headteachers P.A.
The Hundred of Hoo
Comprehensive School
Main Road, Hoo
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Telephone - (01634) 251443
Email crutk001@medway.org.uk

The Hundred of Hoo

Comprehensive
Teacher of Maths
Salary: MPS/UPS
Full Time and Permanent
Required From: 1 September 2008
Closing date: 2 May 2008
To apply/more information
Mrs K Cruttenden,
Headteachers P.A.
The Hundred of Hoo
Comprehensive School
Main Road, Hoo
Rochester
Kent ME3 9HH
Telephone - (01634) 251443
Email crutk001@medway.org.uk

Assistant Faculty Leader

St John Fisher Catholic Comprehensive School
Assistant Faculty Leader of Religious Education
Salary: MPS/UPS + TLR 2c (£2,364)
Full time and permanent
Required From: 1 September 2008
Closing Date: 28 April 2008
To apply/more information
Mr D Kelly, Headteacher
St John Fisher Catholic
Comprehensive School
Ordnance Street
Chatham
Kent ME4 6DP
Telephone - (01634) 842811
Email headteacher@st-johnfisher.medway.sch.uk

Assistant Curriculum

Leader

The Hundred of Hoo Comprehensive
Assistant Curriculum leader (Technology)
Salary: MPS/UPS + TLR 2c (£2,364)
Full time and Permanent
Required From: 1 September 2008
Closing date: 28 April 2008
To apply/more information
Mrs K Cruttenden
Headteachers P.A.
The Hundred of Hoo
Comprehensive School
Main Road, Hoo
Rochester
Kent ME3 9HH
Telephone - (01634) 251443
Email crutk001@medway.org.uk

Head of Department

Walderslade Girls School
Head of Business Studies
Salary: MPS/UPS + TLR 2B
Full time and permanent
Required From: 1 September 2008
Closing Date: 2 May 2008
To apply/more information
Walderslade Girls School
Bradfields Avenue
Walderslade
Kent ME5 0LE
Telephone - (01634) 861596
Email Headteacher@waldersladegirls.medway.sch.uk

Curriculum Leader

Rainham School for Girls
Curriculum Leader - Geography
Salary: MPS/UPS +TLR 2b (£4,037)
Full Time and Permanent
Required From: 1 September 2008
Closing date: 2 May 2008
To apply/more information
Mrs D Francis, Personnel Officer
Rainham School For Girls
Derwent Way, Rainham
Gillingham
Kent ME8 0BX
Telephone - (01634) 362746
Fax - 01634 388334
Email admin@rsg.org.uk

The Hundred of Hoo

Comprehensive
Curriculum leader - Science
Salary: MPS/UPS + TLR 1b (£9,981)
Full Time and Permanent
Required From: 1 September 2008
Closing date: 28 April 2008
To apply/more information
Mrs K Cruttenden
Headteachers P.A.
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Rochester
Kent ME3 9HH
Telephone - (01634) 251443
Email crutk001@medway.org.uk

Subject Leader

Greenacre School
Subject Leader in English
Salary: MPS/UPS + TLR 1b (£9,981)
Full Time and Permanent
Required From: 1 September 2008
Closing date: 30 April 2008
To apply/more information
Mr A J Reese, Headteacher
Greenacre School
(A Specialist Sports College)
Bradfields Avenue
Chatham
Kent ME5 0LE
Telephone - (01634) 861593
Fax - 01634 869246
Email
office@greenacre.medway.sch.uk

Deputy Headteacher /

Curriculum Manager
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Full Time and Permanent
Required From: 1 September 2008
Closing date: 1 May 2008
To apply/more information
Mrs P Coniber, Headteacher
Walderslade Girls School
Bradfields Avenue
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Kent ME5 0LE
Telephone - (01634) 861596
Fax - 01634 869246
Email headteacher@waldersladegirls.medway.sch.uk

SEN

Abbey Court Community Special School
SEN Teacher
Salary: MPS + 2 SEN Points
Full Time and Permanent
Required From: 1 September 2008
Closing date: 9 May 2008
To apply/more information
Linda Taylor
Abbey Court Community Special School
Rede Court Road
Strood
Rochester
Kent ME2 3SP
Telephone - (01634) 338224
Fax - 01634 295369
Email
office@abbeycourt.med.sch.uk

Abbey Court Community

Special School
SEN Teacher to lead KS4/5 (Further Education)
Salary: MPS + TLR 2 (£5778) + 2 SEN
Full Time and Permanent
Required From: 1 September 2008
Closing date: 9 May 2008
To apply/more information
Linda Taylor
Abbey Court Community Special School
Rede Court Road
Strood
Rochester
Kent ME2 3SP
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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Vehicle fleet deal helps local economy

ASHFORD construction company GSE Building & Civil Engineering recently took delivery of a fleet of 19 vehicles after linking up with locally based company Kenhire.

The three-year deal is for the supply and maintenance of the company's entire commercial fleet and represents the second long-term agreement between the two companies.

GSE director Derek Gilburd said: "Keeping such investments with local companies is not only vital for the local economy but helps to maintain employment and encourages other local businesses to think about sourcing from within Ashford."

Will you get an offshore amnesty?

PEOPLE with offshore bank accounts who came forward under last year's tax 'amnesty' will have been waiting anxiously to hear whether their disclosure has been accepted.

This is because HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) has until April 30 to start asking questions about disclosures made under the Offshore Disclosure Facility (ODF).

Mike Down, tax investigations partner at accountants, Baker Tilly, said: "HMRC issued a spate of ODF acceptances recently, but it has encountered problems in the past by starting investigations too close to deadlines and will not want to risk this again."

HMRC has started to contact those who didn't come forward under the amnesty.

Getting ship shape

SEAFRANCE'S newest ferry is getting a £12 million refit at a Dunkirk shipyard prior to its entry to the fleet this summer.

The main aim of the work is to ensure the ship can manoeuvre easily in the docks at Dover to Calais and offer a spacious passenger area for customers.

The SeaFrance Moliere, like others in the fleet, will have two bars, two restaurants, a large boutique shop and a space dedicated to freight and coach drivers.



IT COULD BE YOU: Funding and advice is up for grabs

ONE of Britain's most successful property entrepreneurs, Nick Leslau, could soon be sharing his insight and business acumen with an entrepreneur from Kent.

He is donating four days of his time to mentor the winner of the Bank of Scotland Corporate £30 Million Search for Property Entrepreneurs.

In addition to the £10 million interest-free funding, time with Mr Leslau will provide the winning business with the extra edge it needs to bring about its property dreams.

Mr Leslau is chairman and chief executive of the Prestbury Group, which owns real estate across the country, including Alton Towers, Thorpe Park, Warwick Castle and

Property magnates could win chance in £10 million

Madame Tussauds in central London.

He said: "In the early stage of my career, an injection of £10 million would have made a huge difference when I was growing my business. I'd encourage any local property entrepreneurs to enter the search."

He added: "Entrepreneurs work very hard at finding reasons to do a deal, whereas non-entrepreneurs find lots of reasons not to do a deal."

"Property entrepreneurs need drive, courage and the ability to spot and take an opportunity."

"I would also recommend against looking at property on a nice sunny day and never fall in love with a piece of real estate - this is an investment, after all."

While Mr Leslau will lend his advice to the overall winner, the judging panel in Kent will feature two well-known property

entrepreneurs from the region.

Graham Stanley, from Moorfield Group and Edward Wojakowski, from Tonstate, will be joined on the judging panel by senior representatives from Bank of Scotland Corporate, Property Week and Deloitte.

Short-listed applicants in each territory will be given the opportunity to present their business idea to the judging panel, and then each group of finalists will be invited to a prestigious event in their territory.

The three regional winners will then go forward to a national final in December where the bank's overall Property Entrepreneur of the Year will be named.

Entry forms can be downloaded at www.thebossearch.co.uk and must be submitted by Monday, June 9.

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Dover display has Brickies boss thinking of what could have been

SITTINGBOURNE manager Gary Abbott said he would finally be able to enjoy his week at work after watching his side beat champions Dover at the weekend.

The Brickies boss was delighted with what he saw and it has meant a few of his players have stood up and shown they want to be part of the squad next season.

After a few weeks of poor performances, the central defence partnership of Billy Manners and Paul Ainsworth were back to their best, while Chris Lewington was in inspired form, saving a first half penalty to ensure his side kept their 1-0 lead at the break.

A delighted Abbott said: "I thought we played them off the park and when you

FOOTBALL

think of where we are in the league, we should be in the play-offs.

"I thought we were brilliant. I don't think they deserved a goal. Saving the penalty was probably the turning point for us because they could have put us under pressure at the end of the first half and then it could have been a different game. I think people will stand up and look at that.

"The game was all about me and Richard Brady looking at what we have got and then you think - I can't fault any of them. We still need three or four players to come

in and that makes me think, why aren't we going to have a chance next season?"

The best player on the pitch was 17-year-old Colin Richmond. The youngster faced former Gillingham midfielders Alan Pouton and Andy Hessenthaler, but he didn't let it phase him.

Abbott said: "He was suspended for six weeks, we wanted him in from the moment we got here. Obviously now he is right in there. Getting in with tackles and doing really well. He has been brilliant for us and we just need to keep hold of him now. He didn't look out of place up against experienced players like Alan Pouton and Andy Hessenthaler did he?"



Picture: CHRIS RECAN

ON TARGET: Bourne assistant manager Richard Brady nets from the penalty spot

Sheppey lose out to Medway again

SHEPPEY RFC were beaten by arch rivals Medway for the second time in two weeks as they lost their semi-final of the Kent Vase.

Tries from Medway's Glen Wadsworth and Rob Ellis set up the home side's victory as they ran out 15-7 winners at the Priestfields.

Brad Box scored Sheppey's points after a try with just 15 minutes to go which he got up to convert, but it was not enough for the islanders as they were outdone in the first half by the Kent Two champions.

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Gills boss Mark Stimson on the club's chances of avoiding relegation

Islanders keep their eye on Bly

AFC Sheppey hammered Staplehurst Monarchs 5-1 at the Medway Ports ground to continue the pressure at the top of Kent County League Division One East.

The win means the islanders are within five points of league leaders Bly Spartans, although the top team do still have two games in hand on Sheppey and also a better goal difference.

The two teams come up against each other on Saturday at the Medway Ports ground. A win for Bly would all but end Sheppey's chances of scooping the title, whereas three points for the islanders would keep them in the hunt. Kick-off is at 2.45pm.

PLEASE SEND YOUR SPORTS STORIES TO SPORTS EDITOR GLENN PEARSON AT glenn.pearson@kosmedia.co.uk



Brickies spoil the party as Brady nets first goal

FOOTBALL

BY GLENN PEARSON

Dover Athletic 0 Sittingbourne 2

HOW refreshing it is to hear a manager give an honest account of a game that didn't go their way. Perhaps Messers Ferguson, Wenger and Benitez could do worse than taking a tip from Dover boss Andy Hessenthaler.

The Whites lost their last home game of the season and with it the chance to record 100 points for the season as Sittingbourne proved the party poopers.

Sittingbourne gave the Dover players a guard of honour as they entered the pitch in recognition of their league-winning season.

However, if Dover thought Sittingbourne were going to show them respect on the pitch they would have been mistaken as Gary Abbott's side chased and hurried them all over the pitch and just about shaded it over the 90 minutes.

So much so that Hessenthaler paid tribute to them after the game.

He said: "They spoil the party a little bit. It was about getting the result but we didn't get it. They deserved to win it. But credit to them they worked their socks off and made it very difficult for us.

"You have got to give all the credit to Sittingbourne as I thought they were the better side at the end of it."

On their last outing, the Brickies were thrashed 6-1 at Dulwich Hamlet and were absolutely awful defensively. However, the performance at the Crabble epitomised everything that is good about Sittingbourne under Gary Abbott. When they play against big teams they refuse to be overawed and their never-say-die attitude is to be admired.

It's such a shame that wasn't evident at Dulwich and their ability to take the game by the scruff of the neck against teams at the bottom of the division, such as Whitstable Town and Horsham YMCA, means they missed out in the play-off race some weeks ago.

On Saturday, the Brickies took the lead after 13 minutes with their first real attack on goal. A deep ball into the Dover box saw John Whitehouse out-jumped by Lee Spiller and the ball fell invitingly for Hicham Akhazzan to slot home from six-yards.

Sittingbourne dominated the first half and restricted the champions to just a few half chances.



Picture: CHRIS RECAN

BACK OF THE NET: Richard Brady celebrates his first goal for the club after his penalty secured the points against champions Dover Athletic

Dover were given a lifeline when they were awarded a penalty after Frannie Collin's shot appeared to be blocked by Billy Manners' arm.

However, Lewington guessed right and saved Collin's penalty low down to his right.

The champions came out with purpose in the second half and put Sittingbourne under pressure from the start, but were unable to break down a resolute Brickies defence.

The away side then had to play out the last 15

minutes with ten men when Spiller picked up his second yellow of the afternoon for a lunge on Hessenthaler.

In the 90th minute the Brickies wrapped up the points when they were awarded a penalty after Hessenthaler hauled Richard Brady down in the box.

The Sittingbourne assistant manager Brady stepped up and slammed home his first goal to secure all three points.



Picture: TONY GRAY

CROWDED OUT: Matt Carruthers (number 10) tries to get a shot off against Thamesmead Town but is blocked by four defenders as the Lilywhites lose at Bayliss Avenue. Picture TONY GRAY

Lilywhites fail to stop Town seal league title

DANE Luchford's third goal in two games was not enough to deny Thamesmead Town the three points which saw them confirmed Kent Premier League champions.

The Lilywhites competed all over the pitch against the champions in a closely fought battle between the two teams.

Matt Carruthers linked up effectively with wide men Shane Hamshare and Luchford on several occasions.

It was Carruthers who had Town's first real chance finding himself one-on-one with Mead keeper Chris Conneally, who did well to block twice. Shane Hamshare also went close for the visitors doing well to control a high ball into the box but his shot missed the target.

Slowly but surely the home side started to find their feet and on 30 minutes they took the lead. Former Lilywhite Rikki Cable received the ball wide on the left and his low cross was

FOOTBALL

■ BY YOURSWALE REPORTER

Thamesmead Town 2 Faversham Town 1

met by Richard Dimmock who turned into the Town net.

Five minutes later and the home side appeared to have doubled their lead as Junior Baker rose at the far post to head home past Town keeper Rob Hudson, although the referee deemed Hudson to have been impeded and the goal was ruled out.

With the home side starting to dominate, Town hit back to level on 40 minutes when a Carruthers' through ball found Luchford at the far post where he tucked the ball away from close range.

As half-time approached the Lilywhites

almost took the lead, a fine solo run from Luchford on the left saw the Town winger neatly slide the ball past the goalkeeper, only to see it rebound off the inside of the far post.

The home side regained the advantage on 64 minutes through a bizarre goal. Cable's strike from the edge of the Town box seemed to deflect off several players before changing direction and flying past Hudson who could do little to keep it out.

Despite the set-back the visitors continued to battle, challenging for every ball.

Luchford went close again on 70 minutes cutting in from the left to fire a shot on target, Conneally doing well to punch away for a corner kick.

At the final whistle news of VCD's 1-1 draw sparked off the celebrations around Bayliss Avenue.

The Lilywhites' final game of the season is on Saturday at home to Deal Town.



FORMER TOFFEE: Goalkeeper Neville Southall

Southall was a hit as guest of honour

FORMER Everton and Wales goalkeeper Neville Southall was the guest of honour at Faversham Town's annual sportsman's night.

Southall, 49, had a footballing career that spanned 27 years and ten clubs – most notably Premiership side Everton, where he made more than 750 first team appearances and gained 92 caps for Wales.

The goalkeeper entertained the audience with a question and answer session, fielding a variety of questions which ranged from his views on current keepers through, strangely enough, to Neville's thoughts on campervans.

The evening, which was the fourth annual event hosted by Faversham Golf Club, saw the crowd of 80 enjoy a five-course meal before being let loose on the former footballing star.

Following the Q & A session, the audience were treated to an hour of comedy with TV and stage comic Joe Goodman, proving to be a massive hit.

Squad get ready for new crusade

THE new speedway season gears up soon and the Sittingbourne Crusaders are hoping for a more successful season than last year's efforts.

The Crusaders face Rye House first up on May 3 in the knock-out cup before the first league encounter on May 10.

Aaron Baseby and Jerran Hart form part of the squad this year and team manager Chris Hunt will be hoping the experience of last year will help improve his young squad.

Shakey races into the lead after win

SUPERBIKES

SHANE 'Shakey' Byrne is joint leader of the British Superbike Championship after recording a first and second place finish at Thruxton at the weekend.

In the first of the two 20-lap races, the Sheppey rider had dropped a few places from his pole position start but moved through the field, taking the lead on lap 13. He pulled away in the final laps to take his first win for the Airwaves Ducati team.

An early red flag in race two resulted in a race restart and a new race distance of 15 laps. Following a poor start, Byrne worked his way through to third position and then in a close battle he managed to overtake Michael Rutter on lap 13 to finish second.

Shakey left Thruxton glowing and joint championship leader, as he man-

aged to deal with the hype of being in pole position for the postponed Brands Hatch round.

He said: "I'm really happy with race one but I am gutted that I didn't get the win in race two. Race one was great and everything went to plan, credit must go to the Airwaves Ducati team as my bike has felt good all weekend and I knew I was capable of a winning performance. I am pleased with the first and second but I would have been happier if I had got a better start after the red flag and not let Cal Crutchlow get away from me.

"I had been leading before that so I reckon I was on for a double win but these things happen and I am really pleased to be leaving Thruxton as championship leader. Bring on Oulton Park."

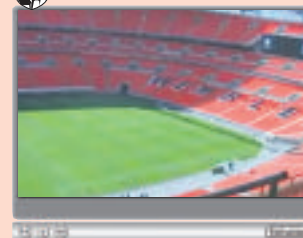
Round three of the British Superbike Championship takes place at Oulton Park from May 3.



PODIUM FINISH: Shane Byrne recorded a first and second-placed finish

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